JOHN BULL, DECEMBER 27, 1930
TWOPENCE.

# JOHN BULL

No. 1280.
Vol. XLVIII.

OVER A MILLION SALE


# 'Flu Threatens if you're run down

...Flu is about, you should be very careful not to get ... or worry or even too much play impair your reserves ... to resist infection. "'Flu" seldom gets a hold on people who are really fit.

If you have been working hard or been going through a period of worry, here is some timely precaution you can take. Take a glass of Wincarnis two or three times a day.

Doctors have been recommending Wincarnis for nearly fifty years, for doctors ... it is a splendid tonic. The wine in every bottle brings the phosphates ... a valuable nutrient gain of 2½ lb. of grapes. To it is added the strength-giving properties and the vitamins of beef and malt extracts.

The result is a whole wine with a delicious flavour and a delicate bouquet, ... that will build up your reserves as few other things could do. With the very first glass you take, you will feel new vigour stealing through your veins. You will be stronger, more alert, more energetic. That night you will sleep better ... than you have for weeks, for Wincarnis is an ... which comes from restless, jaded nerves.

But do not delay. If you are run down in any way you cannot commence ... Wincarnis can help you in convalescence, but why risk ... at all, for Wincarnis will definitely build you up to resist it and to ... attacks.

Get it to-day. Any wine merchant or licensed grocer or chemist will supply ... If you prefer to try a couple of glasses, send 4d. in stamps to cover postage, ... trial bottle, to Colemans and Company, Ltd., Dept. H, Wincarnis Works, Norwich.

WINCARNIS

THE WINE OF LIFE

Obtainable from all Wine Merchants, Licensed Chemists and Licensed Grocers. Price 5/6 and 3/3.

Have you tried Wincarnis Wine Jelly? Ask your grocer. It's delicious!

# SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS WORTH WATCHING

**PREPAID RATE: 9s. PER LINE AVERAGING SIX WORDS, MINIMUM CHARGE, 27s.**

**Advertisements must be received not later than Friday for the following Thursday's issue.**

*Address: The Advertisement Manager, "John Bull," 57-59, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.*

## FOR SMALL TRADERS, SHOPKEEPERS.

**MAKE MORE MONEY.** SELL Tablecloths, Towels, Silk Stockings, Overalls, Men's Socks, Ties, etc. A 1,000 Bargains. The oldest, Largest, Cheapest and Best Wholesale Firm. Write now for Catalogue B., Cochrane, Sons & Co., 2, Thomas St., M'chester.

68-PAGE wholesale Drapery Catlg.: also ABC Guide, direct from actual mfrs., free: read page 56 of "Seven Ways to Make a Living in Drapery." Example of our prices: Men's Shirts 10/11 doz., other bargains in stock.—Wolfson, 48, Thomas Street, Manchester.

CHEAPEST wholesale house for beginners for drapery, hosiery, boots, etc. Wire for free cat. —H. Marks, 65, Houndsditch, London, E.C.3.

## AGENCIES, CLUBS.

WANTED BY JOHN NOBLE, LTD., ORGANISERS OF WEEKLY CLUBS. The IDEAL CLUB is the Talk of the Country! Big Commission, Little trouble, no expense. Marvellous bargains in Fashions, Furniture, Footwear, Bedding, Outfitting, etc. The Ideal Club leads for value! Send P.C. NOW for new catalogue and particulars.—JOHN NOBLE, LTD. (Dept. AT), MANCHESTER.

CLUB AGENTS wanted. — Liberal comm. Household Bargains. WRITE FOR FREE NEW CATALOGUE.—The Nova Trading Co., Ltd., 74, Villa Street, Birmingham.

MONEY EASILY EARNED. No outlay. Organise a Club for Wearing Apparel and Household Goods. Write NOW.—West Riding Manufacturing Co., Batley, Yorks.

## EMPLOYMENT.

MOTOR DRIVERS. — COMMERCIAL and PRIVATE positions. The finest PRACTICAL training to standard R.A.C. Certificate at the lowest inclusive fee. Day or evenings. FREE employment Dept. CALL (9-7) or write, THE BRITISH SCHOOL OF MOTORING, LTD., 5, COVENTRY ST., PICCADILLY CIRCUS, W.1. (Corner Rupert St., next Lyons' Corner House.)

BUY Ladies' Silk Stockings to sell to friends, 50 p.c. profit on our lines. Cat. & Silk Shade Card Free. Cheapest House in Trade. Hickman's, Mitre., Broadway Chambers, London, W.6.

EARN £3—£6 WEEKLY as a Certificated book-keeper. Expert postal tuition at low fees. Success or Exams assured. Free Situations Bureau for students. Brochure, testis., prize scheme FREE on request. City Correspondence College (D9), 23, Chancery Street, London, E.C.

## BUSINESS SERVICES, ETC.

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## BARGAIN SALES.

WALLPAPERS DIRECT from 2½d. per roll. Send for patterns post free.—West Riding Wallpaper Co., 52, Trinity Street, Leeds.

DANCE NOVELTIES, MONSTER PARCELS 10/- or £1. LISTS FREE. — NOVELTY STORES, MILE END ROAD, LONDON.

KNITTING WOOL BUNDLES, 2½ lb. 5/6, for Socks, etc. White 2/6, Grey 2/10, Mixtures 6/11 lb., post free. Flats., Wools, Serges, Tweeds, etc. Spectum Hosiery, W.B. Wholesale, Wellington, Som.

A1 NOVELTIES for Dances, Hats, Balloons, Mickey Mouse Serv., Mas. Inst., etc.—List J.B. 1930 free.—Dudley's, 691, Holloway Rd., N.7.

SHOVE-HA'PENNY Boards, Finest Mahogany. All prices. Standard Model, 21/-. Cat. from actual makers.—Frank Adams, Ltd., H. Wycombe.

CARNIVAL, Dance, Party, Hats, Balloons, Novelties, Wigs. Last (J) FREE.—Hicks Britain Carnival Novelties, Cross Street, London, N.1.

READERS' attention is drawn to the BLANFORD offer on easy terms on page 23. An excellent [illegible] can be secured by writing to the address in the advt. and mentioning JOHN BULL.

WRITE for the free illustrated list of "PLATINUM" PENS, PENCILS, WRITING SETS, etc. Address sentinere Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Dept. J.B.14, Platinum House, Tudor Grove, Hackney, London, E.9.

FREE.—Send for the illustrated booklet No. 29, explaining the details of the free trial offer of an UNDERWOOD PORTABLE TYPEWRITER, which can be obtained on easy terms for ONE GUINEA down. Simply write to Underwood Typewriter Co., Ltd., Bush House, Aldwych, London, W.C.2.

WHY go to the pictures when you can have the Talkies in your own home? For full particulars turn to page 1.—Hastings Patents Co. (Dept. 48), 121 & 123, Wilton Rd., London, S.W.1.

## DRESS.

BABY'S BETTER QUALITY LAYETTE, 22/-, 29 modern home-made garments. Silk and Wool. Shawl, Robes, Day Gowns, Flannels, Terry Napkins, Vests, Barries, Wool Coats, Nightdress, etc. Gold, unequalled Bargain. Over 1,000 true testimonials received. Prove the best by sending 2/-, for parcel on appro., then judge yourself. A Mother 16 years' experience.—Mrs. J. Hayward, 60, Dover Road, Portsmouth. (Cash or Terms.)

BABY BARGAIN LAYETTE.—We send complete Layette on receipt of first instalment 2/6 (Post 1/3), not merely a sample garment, 18 home-made garments 20/-, cash or terms. Prove the best—send for parcel on appro.—STURGESS, 190, Birchfield Road, Northampton.

SHIRTS REFRONTED and recuffed from 1/9 to 2/6. Cost advised on receipt. Post to Seymour's, 54, Horton Road, Bradford, Yorks.

## MUSICAL.

VIOLINS, Drummers' Outfits, Saxophones, Ukuleles, Trumpets, Gramophones, etc., from 5/- deposit, 2/6 weekly. Lists free.—Palmers, 151, Linthorpe Road, Middlesbrough.

GRAMOPHONES, Motors, Parts. Cat. Free. Cash or terms. Build £12 model for £2. Instructions 3d.—J. Burt, 185, High St., Deptford.

## MARKETING BY POST.

TEA.—Buy direct. Save middlemen's profit. Indian and Ceylon blended. Empire blend, 4 lb. 5/-, 10 lb. 12/-. Standard blend, 4 lb. 6/-, 10 lb. 13/-. No. 1 dust, 7 lb. 5/-, 20 lb. 9/-. Special dust, 7 lb. 6/-, 10 lb. 8/-. All carriage paid.—Foulger & Co., Dane Place, Bow, E.3.

## MEDICAL, CURATIVE.

WORMS CURED.—Active Brand Worm Tablets are a Specialist's Positive and Permanent Cure. They cure most violent cases by calmly removing the very cause of the worm's existence. No fasting, no dieting, no interference with daily habits. Send 1/6 for generous supply, or 1½d. stamp for Free Pamphlet.—Ridyard Tablet Co., 34-33, Codnor, Derby.

DON'T WEAR A TRUSS. Use Brooks Rupture Appliance. New Discovery. Wonderful; no lumpy pads, no springs; durable, cheap. Binds and draws parts together quickly. Sent on trial. Catalogue free.—Address, Brooks Appliance Co., Ltd., 4647, 80, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2.

CATARRH.—I cured myself completely. Head Noises, Nose Stuffiness, Catarrhal Deafness, Spitting Phlegm, etc. Will gladly tell others by letter how to overcome this dangerous disease promptly, quickly, permanently.—F. ROBINSON, Suite 129, Tranberg House, Valley, Brisbane, Australia.

SUFFERERS from SKIN DISEASE are offered a free sample and a free booklet on a new treatment advertised on page 19.

A FREE sample of CICFA, the wonderful remedy for INDIGESTION, can be obtained by sending a 1½d. stamp for postage, mentioning John Bull, and address The Cicfa Co., 9 Duke Street, Manchester Square, London, W.1.

FREE.—A trial package of "LACTAGOL" will be sent under private cover on application to Lactagol, Ltd., 35, Gordon Square, London, W.C.1.

FOR the sake of your health write for free illustrated book and offer of CARE'S BIRTH CONTROL on trial approval. Address J.B. Carew, Remo House, 310-312, Regent St., London, W.1.

IF you would know how to get well and keep well, read the YADIL BOOK OF HOME TREATMENT. A copy of this valuable book will be sent gratis and post free. Send for your copy to-day.—Address, Yadil Products (1929), Ltd., Sicilian House, Sicilian Avenue, London, W.C.1.

A FREE SAMPLE of "FEENAMINT" the chewing laxative, can be obtained by sending your name and address on a p.c. to Feenamint Products, Ltd., 15, Bush House, London, W.C.2, mentioning John Bull when writing.

BALDNESS.—I cured myself, and can cure you. Lotion 2s. 6d. Outfit, 5s.—Douglas Dew, KWIK Hair Specialist, 39, Victoria Rise, Victoria Rd., London, S.E.14.

## WANTED TO PURCHASE.

HIGH prices paid for Jewellery, Diamonds, Platinum, Old Gold and Silver, Antiques, Dental Plates (Vulcanite), Valuable Property, etc. Parcels sent [illegible] Cash per return. [illegible] Co., 39, Woodstock St., London, W.1.

[illegible] kind old gold, silver, jewellery, diamonds, old false teeth, platinum scrap, bought, highest cash by return.—Neal's, Upperhead Row, Leeds.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

DUKE'S DELICIOUS JELLIED ALMONDS. YOU CAN'T HELP EATING THEM ALL. SWEET SHOPS.

THE British Commercial Gas Association, representing the British Gas Industry, will be glad to send you free information and advice on any gas problem. If you have any problem that you would like solved, write to the Secretary at 4d, Grosvenor Gardens, London, S.W.1, mentioning John Bull. An advt. for Gas Fires appears on page 21.

A FULL-SIZE 3-valve Wireless Set for 6/6 and coupon only. Turn to the "MAVCO" advt. on page 23. There are two models by which you can get this Set. Fill in the coupon when you desire to do.

READERS' attention is drawn to the interesting announcement issued by the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children on page 28. This Society has over 200 Inspectors throughout England, Wales and Ireland, and anyone willing to help in such an admirable aim for every child should address Sir G. Wyatt Truscott, Bart., Treasurer, National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, Victory House, Leicester Square, London, W.C.2.

FREE.—Every mother who is expecting a baby can obtain a copy of a wonderful booklet, "Before Baby Comes." Simply send 1½d. stamp for postage, and address Dept. 36, Ovaltine House, Osnaburgh Street, London, N.W.1.

A DELIGHTFUL booklet, "The Charm of [illegible]," is offered by the proprietors of "VASELINE." Simply send a P.C. with your name and address to the Chesebrough Mfg. Co., Dept. V.Bk., Victoria Road, Willesden, London, N.W.10.

SEND 2d. in stamps for sample box of PHILIP'S NIGHT LIGHTS to Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., Dept. J.B.A., London, S.W.11.

READERS can obtain a copy of the amazing R.D.V. Gift Book, showing the astonishing cash values, enabling them to get gifts quickly by writing to Godfrey Phillips, Ltd., [illegible] Commercial Street, London, E.1.

SIMPLY send your name and address and 2d. in stamps to cover cost of postage and packing to "PALMOLIVE," Dept. S.C., 44, Hanover Road, Grosvenor Road, London, S.W.1, and receive a 7-days' free trial tube of "Palmolive" Shaving Cream.

THE Proprietors of C.A.V. Batteries and Accumulators will forward their interesting Catalogue No. Q.2 to readers of *John Bull* who apply to C. A. Vandervell and Co., Ltd., Acton, London, W.3.


# Watch this Smile!

—it's a blank expression,
just a space
on a face
where big smiles will
grow after reading the
jokes in the

# PASSING SHOW

**Every Friday - 2d.**


MAKE sure that you have some of the latest ZONO exclusive Records for your Xmas Party. There is a wonderful selection. Send for free Catalogue to ZONOPHONE RECORDS, Hayes, Middlesex.

FREE.—Particulars of "DECCA" PORTABLE GRAMOPHONE models can be obtained by writing for Illustrated Art Books to "Decca," Dept. 11, 1-4, Brixton Road, London, S.W.9.

## LIVESTOCK, POULTRY.

IF you own a dog, write for free Specimen copy of the "DOG WORLD," the leading paper of vital interest to all dog owners—the only paper offering FREE DOG INSURANCE.—"DOG WORLD," Ilkley, Bradford.

DOG Lovers should write for a handsome 96-page illustrated booklet on the care and management of Dogs, published by SPRATT'S PATENT, LTD., 24-32, Pentonville Street, London, E.C.1. The Booklet is FREE.

HOW TO STOP SMOKING.—Genuine remedy proved by testimonials.—Write, The Stanley Institute (J.B.), 21, Warwick Lane, E.C.4.

CHILBLAINS Cured.—Why suffer intolerably itching and burning tortures of Chilblains? CHILLILINE reduces swellings & prevents burning. Chemists, 1/3 tubes, or post free 1/6 from Osborne R. & C., Dept. W., 62, Hampstead Rd.

BLADDER Weakness, Kidney Troubles, etc., cured by Parker's Field Remedy, 1/3, 2/-, 3/6, etc., or Parker's Remedy, Ltd., Liverpool. Spl. 24.

BRONCHITIS.—By sitting directly on the inflamed passages. Vapo-Cresolene gives speedy relief. Write for Free Booklet 26. Grossmith & Hanburys, Ltd., LONDON, E.C.2.

NERVOUSNESS.—A remarkable book on genuine cure of Self-consciousness, Blushing, Depression, Weak Nerves, Insomnia, Morbid Fears, etc. (Recommended by Editor of "Health and Efficiency"), sent privately for 7d. only.—Henry Rivers (J.B.T.), 58, London Opinion Bldgs., W.C.1.

# JOHN BULL'S SHOP WINDOW

*I Guarantee your Satisfaction*

**SHOP BY POST SAVE TIME AND MONEY**

JOHN BULL'S Shop Window brings a Bargain Store to Your Door. These goods have been chosen for their outstanding quality and value. Study each offer carefully. Write your name and address clearly, send money and notes by registered post. Always mention JOHN BULL.

Only reliable and fair dealing firms are allowed to display their goods in JOHN BULL'S Shop Window. You can buy from them as safely as purchasing across a shop counter, for every article is sold under a strict guarantee of absolute Satisfaction or Money Back in full

**READ HOW YOU ARE SAFEGUARDED**

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IMPERIAL BABY CARS

**THIS MODEL 1/6 A WEEK**

DIRECT FROM FACTORY SAVE MONEY

This FRAME TOURS for 5/9 1st payment of and then only eleven monthly payments of 5/9 each. Supplied all complete with storm apron with storm flap, washable leather cloth hood, celluloid covered hood joints, 4 mudguards, cycle spoke wheels, white ribbed cushion tyres, safety brake. Sent Off - Aft. POSTAL. Carriage Paid. ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE FREE. SEE WHAT YOU SAVE. Other models with DUNLOP EVER-LASTING TYRES and Ball Bearing Wheels. WRITE NOW!

**IMPERIAL BABY CARS**
(Dept. E.)
212-216, Pentonville Road, King's Cross, London, N.1.

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**CUT YOUR OWN HAIR**

**GREAT HALF PRICE OFFER**
SAVES TIME AND MONEY. FOR LADIES AND GENTS.

*Trims as it Combs.* Keeps Your Hair Short and neat.

**1/-** Post 3d. *Send P.O. or stamps.* Simple Adjustable Blade. A Child can use it

**FREE** An Extra Blade will be given free to all sending for above.

**J. B. COLE, 24, Buckingham St., W.C.2**
*(Trade enquiries invited)*

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*Wave Your Own Hair*

**EVE'S ELECTRIC DOUBLE WAVER** AT HOME IT'S EASY!

**PERMANENT WAVES**

Complete Set 1 for 2/6. The battery is at the end and will last for 6 months. Refills 6d. each at any wireless shop. Safe and simple. A child can use it.

**£1,000 GUARANTEE**

TO WAVE IN 10 MINUTES WITHOUT HEAT. Simply insert Eve's Electric Waver and in 10 minutes a glorious permanent wave will result. Heat is Hair's deadly enemy. Of all good Hairdressers, Chemists and Stores, or post free from

ONLY **1/-** *Send P.O. or Stamps.*

**EVE & CO., 9, DUKE ST., STRAND, W.C.2**

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**REAL TALKIES - 1/11** POST 4d

Simply place the Kinesphone on your gramophone and have real cinema talking pictures. No extra lighting required. Just start motor and watch and hear Mickey, Charlie Chaplin, etc., perform to the music, causing endless fun and amusement. Fits every make of gramophone. Complete apparatus, together with five moving pictures records.

Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded.

Send per return.

**HASTINGS PATENTS CO.** (Dept. 48), 121 & 122, Wilton Road, LONDON, S.W.1.

Makers of the famous Tango Two Gramophone Dancers. 1/11, post 3d. Kinesphone and Gramophone Dancers together, 3/6, post 6d.

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**HIDE GAUNTLETS**

*Overall length 16 inches*

Of pliable nut-brown stout hide, specially treated to render absolutely waterproof.

Cut in one piece, fingers gusseted and linen lining. These splendid Gloves are well-nigh indestructible and will give endless wear.

**3/11**

Postage 6d.

*Money back Guarantee.*

This advantage of these supplies Government Military Gauntlet Glove a new, as they are an absolute bargain and undoubtedly cost treble our price to produce.

Full Men's size only.

**NUTTALL,**
1, GOODMAYES ILFORD

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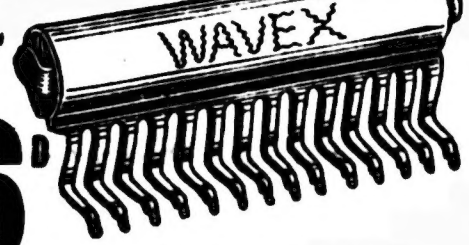
**SIXPENNY ELECTRIC COMB!**




**6D**

Battery 3d. extra. Sent post free for 1s.

**Handle contains battery.**
**No Sparks. No shocks.**

Think of it! A genuine "Wavex" Electric Comb for 6d. only. No wonder "Wavex" Combs are selling in thousands every day. Science has discovered that electricity is food for the hair—it brings hair beauty and banishes all hair troubles.

**WAVY HAIR FOR ALL**

Let glorious wavy hair be yours! Throw away your old-fashioned comb and use "Wavex," and see what a difference it will make to your hair in two days. No lotions required. No setting needed. Saves expensive hairdressers' charges and valuable time. Can be carried in handbag with perfect safety. A child can use it and gain hair beauty. "Wavex" Combs are British made by British labour and last for years. Send for one to-day.

**NEW HAIR NEXT WEEK**

Used like an ordinary comb, "Wavex" Electric Comb conquers baldness, stops falling hair, restores colour and keeps the scalp in the pink of condition. The mild health-giving electricity flows through the double row of curved teeth. Price: **6d.** only (Battery **3d.** extra), or sent complete under plain sealed cover for **1s.** (P.O. or stamps) post free.

**WAVEX**

**24, Buckingham Street, London, W.C.2.**

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**Biggest Value IN FLOOR COVERING**

NOTE NEW LOW PRICES **90 SQ. FT. for 15/-**

DAMP and ROT PROOF specially suited for damp stone or wood floors. Lies flat without fixing.

**PAROLEUM** (all rolls 2 yards wide.)

*Many pretty patterns to choose from.*

SEND FOR FREE SAMPLES

**J. B. ANDREWS & SONS, Sutherland Square, Walworth Road, LONDON, S.E.17**

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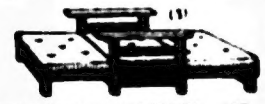
**FULL LENGTH BED CHAIR 2/6 with SPRING SEATS**

ONLY secure delivery of this full-length Bed-Chair with spring seats, and 12 weekly payments of 2/6 complete purchase. Solid oak frames polished rich nut brown, 3 velvet cord cushions, any colour, 2 seat cushions, reversible. Our Patent spring seats ensure comfort with permanent springing. Carriage Free England. Postal Orders only. Cash Price **30**.

*Send for new Coloured List B.*

(1)



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**NORTH BUCKS TRADING CO., LTD.,**
52, Shaftesbury Avenue, Piccadilly Circus, W.1.

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**AMAZING EASY TERMS**

Only **25/-**

**FREE GOLD TIE PIN** of special make and design. Given absolutely FREE with every order.

**ONLY 1/- DOWN**

Brings this handsome Watch direct to you. Gent.'s Solid Nickel Silver Chromium non-tarnishable mirror finished Keyless Wrist Watch. Solid leather hand-sewn strap. Fitted with the New 1931 "Magna" super high-grade resistance movement. Proof against extreme climatic variations, absolutely dependable action. Sunray silvered dial. Exactly as illustrated. Every watch covered by our ten years' written guarantee. Send to-day and secure your FREE GIFT. Reduced manufacturing costs enable us to offer this watch at the amazing price of 25/- instead of 2 Guineas. Yours for 1/- down, on receipt of watch 2/-, and 1/- every week until 25/- is paid. Cash with order C.O.D. 22/6 only. Illustrated folder sent free. Write to-day to:—

**ROBERTS & CO., Jewellers and Silversmiths (Dept. J.B.), 37, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.1.**

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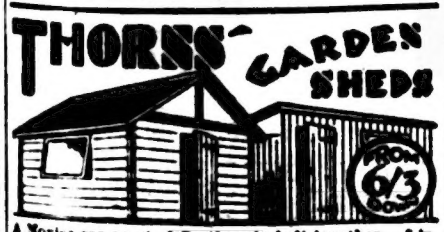
**THORN'S GARDEN SHEDS**




A Novice can erect. 6 Sections to bolt together. ¾ in. weatherboards. Planed Framing. Roofing Felt. Useful for storage Cycles, Workshops, etc. Prompt Dispatch. Span roof type, as left illustration.

| Long. | Wide. | High. | Cash Price. | 6 payments or 12 |
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| 8ft. | 5ft. | 6½ft. | £4 . 13 . 6. | of 16/5 of 8/7 |
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Carr. Paid. Send for Free Book No. 66. Many sizes & designs.

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**NERVOUSNESS**

**A Remarkably Interesting Book. Throwing a New Light on the Mystery of "Nerves," Offered Free to All Sufferers.**

*A genuine Testimonial:*
"... such a unique and very valuable course is worth its weight in gold!"

A remarkable book, "The Conquest of Fear" (recommended by Editor of "Health and Efficiency"), describing the cause and cure of Self-consciousness, Blushing, Depression, Morbid Fears, Insomnia and kindred nervous disorders, sent privately to sufferers for 3d. only. Send for a copy now and you will be delighted to learn how easily you can conquer your nervous fears!

**HENRY J. RIVERS (J.B.76),**
40, Lambs Conduit Street, LONDON, W.C.1

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**SENSATIONAL RADIO!**

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**The World's Wireless Stores, Wallington, Surrey**

Please send me FREE ART PLATES of "Miracle" sets.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

J.B.

Write in CAPITAL letters, using a pencil.

**The MIRACLE VICTORY** FROM 5/6 DOWN

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**THE NEW RUBBER CUSHION HAIR BRUSH**

A special purchase enables me to offer this 12/6 Polished Mahogany back FULL SIZED Rubber Cushion Pneumatic Hair Brush at the astonishingly low price of 3/6, post 4d. Supersedes ordinary brush for comfort, and penetration. Invigorates, stimulates and strengthens the hair. Send P.O. 3/10 NOW to secure this amazing bargain.

**WM. PENN** (Dept. J.C.)
682, Holloway Road, London, N.19.

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**2 SHIRTS 4/9**

**TWO FOR 4/9 POSTAGE 6D**

**Half Cost of Material alone.** To advertise our 36-page Catalogue of over 200 Great Bargains, we are making a special offer to readers of this paper of 2 guaranteed shirts for the advertising price of 4/9, post 6d. This is less than half the price that you could purchase the material alone.

In fancy stripes of strong flannelette, full cut, gusseted and double yoke, and made for strong, hard service.

Remember, cash refunded if you do not consider these shirts honestly worth double. Send to-day, stating size of neck band, and you will receive them per return, together with our catalogue of working men's many bargains.

**NUTTALL, 1, GOODMAYES, ILFORD, E.**

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# CRAVEN "A"

CORK-TIPPED VIRGINIA CIGARETTES

they're MADE SPECIALLY to prevent sore throats

Craven "A" Mixture — blended for the particular smoker. Flat Pocket Tins, 1 oz. 1/1; 2 oz. 2/2. CARRERAS LTD., LONDON

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# JOHN BULL

*For the People— —the Right to Justice and Truth*

WEDNESDAY,
for Week ending Saturday, Dec. 27, 1930. Twopence.
Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper. Postage: Inland and Canada, 1d.; all other parts of the world, 1½d.

*"If you see it in 'John Bull,' it is so"*

THE Tory generals have decided to allow the Electoral Reform Bill to pass as a non-contentious measure. Systematic opposition to the alternative vote will be withdrawn.

But it is far from being kindness of heart that has inspired this change of front. The reasons are many and ingenious.

• • •

Bitter opposition, they feel, would react on their own heads, for it would drive Liberals and Labour into a close alliance against them.

On the other hand, with the measure through, Lloyd George might be induced to join a Tory plot to oust the Government.

• • •

Further, they realise that some such reform is inevitable, and they would rather yield ground now than face charges of stubbornness and obstruction in the constituencies.

The Central Office, however, may resort to a little haggling. It may ask in return for its blessing the retention of University members and plural voting.

## Who owns England?

Pressure is being brought to bear on Mr. Snowden from influential quarters to publish an up-to-date analysis of landholders in England.

Since the Domesday Book, about eight centuries ago, no return of the kind has been issued.

Even local authorities do not know who owns the land in their areas, and the Treasury has consistently refused to help them to find out.

Mr. Snowden is said to be sympathetically inclined, and if he will oblige we will shortly learn who owns England—and how to tax them.

## The leak

For once the British Secret Service has been baffled.

Acting on the instructions of the Cabinet, it has been struggling in vain to discover how the essential facts of a highly important and confidential document—the Report on the Steel Industry—has "leaked" to influential commercial circles in Germany.

• • •

Meanwhile, what about publishing the document in this country, so that British industrialists and financiers shall be at least as well informed as their foreign rivals?

## Bank notoriety

The monthly organ of one of the big banks thinks "a steady improvement in trading activity is about to set in," and advises investors to sit on their money in the meanwhile, so as "to ensure that best advantage shall be taken of the situation thus developing."

In other words: Instead of feeding the goose, let's sit round the other end and watch for golden eggs!

## Baldwin's whalebone

Distinct stiffening of Mr. Baldwin's political neck is noticeable these days.

Mr. Neville Chamberlain is the whalebone that is lifting the Conservative leader's hitherto drooping head.

Discipline is now the watchword of the Central Office, and the impatient young men of the Party are being sternly warned.

• • •

Open rebels like Admiral Taylor are to be openly opposed at election-time, while Mr. Churchill, as an old-time backslider on the question of food-taxes, is enveloped in cold suspicion.

# Tory Generals Disarm for War!

## Carpet-Baggers on the Carpet

### Secret Service Baffled

## Simon not simple

You can disregard those rumours that Sir John Simon intends to cross the floor of the House and join the Conservative Party.

*He will not "cross the floor"*

He has other plans.

There are to revive that little band of "Wee Free" Liberals who made such a nuisance of themselves ten years ago.

In such an event he would be their leader and would be absolutely independent of Mr. Lloyd George. On most issues he and his followers would vote against the Government, while L. G. and the official Liberal Party would support it.

The only thing that would unite them would be a vote involving the issues of Free Trade and Protection.

## Music hath world charms

The greatest power for good is undoubtedly music. International sports are so keenly contested that it often rouses passions.

But music, as we know, soothes the savage breast, and therefore the visit of the German conductor, Hermann Scherschen, who has been conducting some big symphony concerts for broadcasting purposes, and whose visit has just ended, is an event worth noting.

Without being able to speak more than a word or two of the English tongue, he achieved more for international amity than a dozen voluble statesmen.

## Making up leeway

The limitation of hours of work at sea is at last being attempted by concerted international action.

Following much preliminary research by the International Labour Office, a committee has been appointed representing employers, workers and the Governments of the chief sea-trading countries.

M. Cartier, a French Government representative, and a British workers' representative, Mr Hewson, as chairman and vice-chairman respectively, have made numerous suggestions aimed at improving the conditions of all classes of workers at sea.

At present seamen's terms of labour are a generation behind those of most workers on land.

## This isn't Aussie

Australia's economy campaign has had a regrettable sequel in this country. Five officials at the High Commissioner's Office, with an average of twenty years' service, have received a month's notice.

All are Englishmen, most served in the war. One, a chauffeur with eighteen years' service, has driven every High Commissioner Australia has had in London, and all visiting Premiers, including the famous "Billy" Hughes.

A month's notice, which they have to work out, seems snabby to us. Surely it would not have been over-extravagant to have given these old and loyal servants three months' pay with a chance to find work.

We leave it to the conscience of the Commonwealth to adjust matters.

## "Black-hole" prisons

The state of affairs at Nairobi prison in Kenya Colony is a sorry blot on our colonial administration.

*He must remember the flag*

So unhealthy is this jail that thirty-six people died there in 1929, apart from those executed—a death-rate of 43 per thousand of the average prison population.

Most of the deaths were due to pneumonia and dysentery.

There seems to have been some tardy official recognition of the fact that the accommodation at the jail is a menace, and there is talk of providing new buildings on a new and healthier site.

We hope that Lord Passfield will press the local authorities to have this work carried out immediately. At the same time he might direct his attention to the jail at Hong Kong.

There must be no "black-hole" prisons under the British flag.

## Rabbits

Parliament appears to have plenty of time to squander, although important measures are repeatedly postponed because "there is no time."

Recently it wasted a whole day in discussing the Rabbits Bill, and Members have been called together four times since then to consider the measure in committee.

Twice the committee failed to muster a quorum and the proceedings had to be abandoned.

And, meanwhile, the Committee on Parliamentary Procedure—whose job it is to recommend methods of ending this sort of rot—reached a deadlock at its first meeting over the election of a chairman and calmly voted itself a two-months' adjournment.

Would you believe it?

## Not so peppy

The old country's business methods are often sneered at by Americans as being out of date and so unorganised.

The President of the United States, however, has just condemned a few of the anomalies in "God's own country."

Four leading food-packing companies cannot retail their own meat and meat products because they manufacture them themselves. Yet chain-store organisations may retail numerous food-products produced in plants which they own.

Oil-producers are not permitted to co-operate in order to curtail output, yet refiners of oil have been urged by the Federal Oil Conservation Board to limit their operations to stabilise production.

Yes?

## The gunmen

President Hoover has let the cat out of the bag.

"With naval parity in our hands," he says, "we become practically the balance of power in any war . . . and as we decide, the war is apt to go."

So now we know!

## Joke over!

The High Commissioner for Palestine has ordered the cessation of work on Sundays at Haifa Harbour.

This pious care for the workmen is nullified by the fact that half of them are Moslems who keep Friday holy, and the rest are Jews to whom Saturday is the Sabbath Day.

Still we can hardly laugh at this state of affairs while we tolerate the out-of-date laws now in force in Britain

## The income-tax bogey

It is appropriate that one of the worst bogeys we have seen at this season of ghost stories is that which threatens to put sixpence on the income-tax.

This is not the time to worry about it, but it is said in Downing Street that this increase is inevitable. "Whether Snowden or whoever else is at the Treasury, he will be bound to make this increase."

Let us hope it is a bogey.

## Wheels and woe

In spite of the fact that up to 1925 1,190 million pounds has been spent on railways and during the past fifteen years 595 millions has been spent on roads, figures not hitherto published, the cost of transport to-day is the same as it was a generation ago

It is to be hoped that the eagerly awaited final report of the Royal Commission will deal with this vital point. Cheap transport is British industry's most urgent need.

If the commission's report omits to prescribe radical reforms there is the powerful body of business opinion now being organised to force the Government's hand.

## Even a criminal

A well-known referee, Mr. George D. Nunnerley, formerly of Wrexham and now of Ellesmere, was curtly informed by the Football Association recently that his name had been removed from the League list.

No explanation was offered. He was left in the dark and remains there.

Mr. Nunnerley asked for reasons. The curt reply was that information supplied to the Management Committee of the F.A. was private and could not be divulged.

The deepest-dyed crook is told the charges against him. The F.A. must certainly state what it has been told against this honest sportsman.

## "Wake up!"

Just before the Prince of Wales made his memorable "Wake up!" speech news was received of a serious loss to British trade in Ecuador, the South American republic.

• • •

Here Germany now leads us with a fleet of a hundred ships out of a total of 412, as against seventy-one British.

Incidentally complaint is made that the British cargo service takes from three to four weeks to reach New York, while other boats take only a fortnight.

"Wake up!" is right.

## Mint sauce

Workers at the Royal Mint handle millions. They are probably sick and tired of the sight of money. But what do they think of their own pay-packets?

The remuneration of many of them is less than that paid to unskilled workers. After five years' service it is as low as £3 6s. 11d. a week, or, in exceptional cases, £4 10s. 3d., paid to brilliant workers of long service.

Surely these skilled and trustworthy fellows are deserving of better treatment than this. What about an increase as a New Year's gift? The Mint is a profit-earning concern.

## Play the game

The council formed recently by big industrialists to advocate Protection, Empire trade measures, and economy in public expenditure proposes to establish a league of individual members to advance these objects.

Nobody can take reasonable exception to this, but there seems to be a sinister atmosphere about one of the suggested methods of obtaining recruits.

• • •

It is proposed that employers should convene meetings of their workers and that the latter should be invited, not only to join the movement, but to wear the badge of the league "on all occasions."

The possibilities of pressure are obvious, and those who made the suggestion would be well advised to drop it.

## What is right then?

Do we keep to the right or to the left on the pavement?

Since time immemorial it was to the left, and someone—heaven knows why!—altered the old rule and asked us politely to "Keep to the right."

Now half keep to the right and half keep to the left, particularly in the crowds.

Result: Chaos.

## The truth, please

It is vital, for all parties concerned, that the Salford Watch Committee shall probe to the last available fact the alleged grave abuse of his powers by a detective in the local force.

According to Councillor Howard, of the City Council, two plain-clothes officers accosted some children playing football in the street.

One boy was caught and grabbed near his home. His father, unaware that the men were police officers, told one of the detectives to "leave him alone."

Three independent witnesses, says Councillor Howard, can testify that the detective straightway struck the man on the jaw, and then butted him with his head. The father, however, was arrested and sent to jail for a month.

These witnesses must be heard and the honour of the detective vindicated or otherwise.

# "If You See It—"—*continued*

## Wait for it!

*"Very keen on writing"*

Mrs Snowden is not likely to give any more interviews or to write articles while Mr. Snowden remains Chancellor.

This is not only a great pity so far as Fleet Street is concerned, but is certainly disappointing to her, for Mrs. Snowden is very keen on writing.

When her pen flows again our readers will be among the first to benefit.

## Variety turn next

If "variety is the spice of life" then the music-hall is due for a rise out of the dumps into prosperity.

Personally, we never believed those social undertakers who said it was dead, but it was certainly very ill.

But so essentially British in character is it, so bracing, so real, so honest-to-goodness, that we think the public has more than a lukewarm corner in its heart for it still.

We agree with Mr. Charles Gulliver, who suggests a bold linking up of all interests concerned—managers, agents, artists, orchestrians and so on—in a bold effort to give a big section of the public what it wants. And that is—Variety days again!

## We're nervous, too

We are gravely uneasy regarding the treatment of nervous and mental patients by the Ministry of Pensions.

Of the 165 orderlies employed in institutions under the control of this department, only thirty-three possess certificates. And control by the Minister is often so indirect as to be merely nominal.

The highest standard of staff qualification is required. Reports of unrest and even violence in some institutions are very disquieting.

## With a pinch of salt

We do not take too seriously the recent trouble at Glasgow University over the amount spent by representatives of the students when visiting other universities.

The interchange of courtesies between universities entails a certain amount of conviviality and expense. And we do not too utterly condemn the bright young man who was in such a state that the rest of the party wrote their names on his boiled shirt.

Far better that than the antics of London students in burning public property and striking policemen.

## Engineers next

The next group of workers to have their wages attacked will be the engineers.

Early in the New Year the employers are to meet the fifty unions concerned and put before them plans for the future of the industry.

These plans, we happen to know, will include reductions of wages, especially for some of the semi-skilled workers.

The unions, no doubt, will stick to their guns. Engineers are already badly paid, *and recruits to this great British craft are not coming along.*

## Service, not self

Recent mention of those Members of Parliament who do not accept remuneration for their services recalls an act of Ministerial sacrifice which has been kept a close secret for six years, and which we now reveal for the first time.

*"Very well, chief; I'll stand down"*

When Mr. MacDonald was framing his 1924 Cabinet he suddenly recollected that the name of one who had been promised office had been overlooked. Getting him in meant putting somebody else out.

Mr. Arthur Greenwood, now Minister of Health, was that man. He cheerfully stood aside with a "Very well, chief; I'll stand down." And he took, instead, a second-grade post as Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry over which he now presides.

The Premier incidentally, was very much moved at the unselfish and sportsmanlike manner in which Mr. Greenwood made the sacrifice.

## Yes, it happened

John Crompton, of Bridgewater Road, Farnworth, was killed while cycling, his machine colliding with a car driven by a Farnworth doctor.

The body lay in the road, tended by the doctor, until it was eventually removed by a greengrocer's van.

In the meantime, however, the Farnworth ambulance had arrived, but it was not Farnworth's affair, since the body lay in Little Hulton, and it drove away again!

What a miserable exhibition of local red-tape.

## The birch for blackmailers

There is a good deal to be said for the view of Sir Henry Dickens who wishes to use the birch for blackmailers.

The rod terrifies the coward, as there is no greater coward in the world than the blackmailer.

Birch him by all means, and lay on thick!

## A pat for a parson

The Rev. H. G. Wilks, of Holmfirth, is a parson to be proud of. He has arranged as a Christmas attraction a "Continental cabaret show with Paris beauty chorus" of local girls, the latter in dainty tunics and real knickers.

Well done! Parishioners are sick to death of bazaars and socials. Why should the devil have all the good tunes?

## Post later

Why not postpone quarter days to the end of the year? This is meant seriously.

We can put up with a good deal but to have a shower of bills to settle nothing about income-tax, coming with the Christmas post is, at the least, bad management.

Why not shower the bills on the unfortunate taxpayer after Christmas?

True, he will be feeling the reaction after the festivities, but if he will not have sufficient spirit to resist the demands. So from every point of view it would be a good thing.

## Queer justice

Here is something which the West Riding Assizes, Leeds, might explain.

On the same day two cases were decided. In the first, George Crowther, Grange, steward and deputy clerk to a mental home, was sentenced to *four years' penal servitude* for the fraudulent conversion of £170. His wife had refunded the money.

In the second, Donald Palmer Sewell, clerk to Linthwaite District Council, was given *two years in the second division* for the fraudulent conversion of £1,172. Why this queer discrepancy?

## Fresh bread

The new Factory Bill to be introduced in the House before Easter will contain a clause abolishing night baking.

This has long been a source of dispute in the industry, but now that the wrapping of bread is becoming general it is believed that the system can be abolished without hardship to either employer or consumer.

It is necessary that the bread should be cooled before it is wrapped, and as the automatic sealing of the wrapper keeps it fresh, the whole process can be set back to allow of the baking being done the previous day.

A splendid step forward.

## ADAMSON'S— —*First Footing*

# CRUEL WILLS

## by VISCOUNT ASTOR,

*whose efforts for this reform are seconded by his versatile wife—the first woman to take her seat in the House of Commons*

*"I can find no reason why a woman should be deprived of her due"*

**TO anyone who has studied our laws of inheritance the necessity for some alteration in them is so obvious as scarcely to need stressing.**

**Every care is taken to ensure that, during their lifetime, husbands shall support their wives—and, in certain circumstances, wives their husbands—and that parents shall support dependent children.**

**But no provision exists that when husbands, wives or parents die they shall leave any part of their property by will to the spouse or children surviving, however necessitous.**

**There is no reason that I can find why a woman after her husband's death should be deprived of the due which the law admits is hers during her lifetime. In addition, it is clear that the power to disinherit provides an unscrupulous husband with a very strong weapon of intimidation.**

**It is equally unjust that a husband who, through physical disability or some other handicap which has compelled him to depend on his wife's property when she is alive, should be denied at least a share of this only because he happens to survive her.**

**Again, I think it is generally admitted that where parents die and leave money, their children should not have to be supported by the community or charity.**

**But England, almost alone of all countries, sanctions this anomalous state of affairs.**

**It is a curious position. Under the old common law no man could give away any portion of his estate without his children consenting. Our present code, too, protects the interests of the widow and the orphan in other connections.**

### RICH—and POOR

*After a lifetime of care and family service many women are left without even a farthing's share in the savings they have helped to make.*

*The unfairness of the English law governing wills and bequests cries out for its amendment.*

*If Lord Astor and his supporters succeed, the amending law will be a charter for the comparatively poor and the rich alike.*

### *Castaway widows*

**IN the event of a husband or wife dying possessed of property, and where no will has been made, the law admits the right of the surviving husband or wife to a fixed share in the estate of the other—amounting to £1,000 and a life interest in half the remainder. The children, dependent or not, are entitled to share equally in what is left.**

**The law, again, by the Widows', Orphans' and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, binds the insured population to contribute towards the support of their widows and orphans.**

**But where the law protects the dependants in the case of an intestacy, it is silent on the question of unjust wills.**

**That a change in the law is imperative is plainly apparent. Scores of cases come to light every year where no provision has been made for wives, husbands or children, although the testator has been quite able to make it. This ought to be made impossible by law.**

**And such cases do not arise only among the rich. On the contrary, they happen chiefly in that section of the community which is not in the habit of having marriage settlements—people usually in modest circumstances who owe what property they have to years of hard saving.**

**Many of these cases never come to light. The following, however, are summaries of typically hard cases which have been brought to my notice. All have occurred recently:**

**A man carrying on a business at X told his wife he had another business at Y, which compelled his lengthy absences from home. He died as the result of an accident, leaving his property to his mistress and her children living at Y. His wife was left penniless.**

**A woman was left in poverty on the death of her husband. She had been married to him for twenty years. The whole of his estate, valued at £3,000, and even the furniture, was left to his two sons by his first wife. She has now to apply for relief.**

**Again, a wife who had been living with her husband on perfectly friendly terms left her savings to her nephews and nieces. Her husband is an elderly man past work.**

**A husband forged his wife's signature and sold her property without her knowledge. At death, he left all his property, including the proceeds of the sale of his wife's estate, to his mistress.**

**A woman lost her husband in a motor-cycling accident. She was left with a son at school. By the husband's will, all his property passed to an elder sister. His son is to receive only £50 at twenty-one.**

**The wife had no reason to believe that she would be left without means. She had always lived with her husband and is a good mother.**

### *Other woman's money*

**A PUBLIC-HOUSE manager left his wife and lived with another woman. During his life he was compelled to make his wife a reasonable allowance. On his death he left all his money to the woman of his choice. His wife has now to apply for relief.**

**If, as the argument runs, hard cases make bad law, it is equally true that hard cases are often evidence that the law is bad.**

**I admit that the average testator has usually an innate sense of fairness and is better aware than any outsider of the needs and shortcomings of his family.**

**But I think the case is amply proved for some alteration in the present law which will reduce hard cases to a minimum.**

**In Scotland a husband or wife is entitled on the death of one or the other to one-half of the estate if there are no children, and to one-third if there are children. Adequate provision is also made for children.**

**If a testator in New Zealand fails to make adequate provision for his or her wife, husband or children, the court may order that a portion of the estate be handed over to them, account being taken of the character and conduct of the claimant.**

**In most of the States of Australia and Canada similar conditions obtain, and in the United States provision is made in nearly every State that the widow shall have either a fixed portion of her husband's property, or that she shall have an allowance for herself and her family fixed at the discretion of the court.**

### *Unheard thousands*

**IN most of the leading European countries there are laws which reserve a certain proportion of a testator's property to the surviving spouse and children.**

**Evidence proves that the existence of these laws removes possibilities of hard cases occurring, and few, therefore, find their way to court each year.**

**I have been intimately concerned for some time with attempts to introduce legislation which would bring England into line with most other countries in this matter.**

**There has been a considerable amount of helpful public discussion as a result of this, and we hope shortly to introduce a revised measure to meet some of the criticisms which our first proposal encountered.**

**There is a demand for a reduction in costly legislation which increases the burdens of taxpayers.**

**I hope and believe that Parliament will accordingly have time to devote to the passage of Bills of this type—Bills, that is to say, which do not increase the expenses of the nation, but do decrease the injustices under which many now suffer.**

# ELSTREE CALLING THE WORLD!

## A Xmas Box for Boxing—Megan Makes Good

## CANDID COMMUNICATION

**Mr. T. E. THIRLAWAY,**
*Messrs. Swan and Hunter, Ltd.*

DEAR SIR,—You are relinquishing command of a company which in the past twenty-four years held the blue riband of shipbuilding seven times.

During the widely advertised depression of 1930, your Tyne, Wear and Clyde yards surpassed all their previous records with an output of 213,220 tons, including seventeen vessels for foreign owners as well as British naval and mercantile tonnage.

This performance will probably carry off an eighth blue riband. But such achievement calls for national recognition, and I am proud to salute a real captain of industry.

JOHN BULL.

**Detective-Sergeant WITHERS,**
*Scotland Yard, London, S.W.*

DEAR SERGEANT,—It was fine of you to speak up for Henry Euston, who stole to get luxuries for his sick wife, and speak up so well that Mr. Wilberforce gave the man another chance.

If the police act with such humanity and discretion, many a weak soul will be kept from becoming an habitual criminal.

JOHN BULL.

**The EARL OF LONSDALE, K.G.,**
*President of the Boxing Board*

MY LORD,—You must take in hand vigorously the framing of a code for referees. Your Board is more to blame than the referees, who, quite honestly, have just given many debatable decisions.

The referees do not know whether they must give credit for persistent but clumsy slogging, or for boxing and clever fighting, as understood in Britain.

We do not want Yankee "dog fights" here, and recent history shows that our clever men—Plimmer, Driscoll, Wilde—can beat handsomely the roughnecks of the American ring. Our men will do it again.

Call the referees together and work out a straight line of policy.

JOHN BULL.

**Miss MEGAN LLOYD GEORGE, M.P.**
*2, Addison Road, London, W.*

DEAR MADAM,—Thanks for standing up for the agricultural labourers, and getting inserted in the Land Bill a provision that they shall have the same facilities for getting small-holdings as unemployed men.

Better a man who understands the job than a man who doesn't. Beside, fair's fair.

JOHN BULL.

## STRAIGHT *from the Shoulder*

E. H. SYMONDS: "Feminine charm in the last century was framed in heaviness and drab."

*But who cared for the frame when the picture was so charming?*

* * *

DEAN INGE: "The deterioration of character which often sets in at about fifty."

*How old is the Dean?*

* * *

SIR F. GOODENOUGH: "Character more than ability is the qualification for success."

*Nonsense! Good men who don't know their job fill the workhouses. Character alone is not good enough.*

**Mr. A. SHORT,**
*Parliamentary Under-Sec., Home Office*

DEAR MR. SHORT,—Your admission that our fire-fighting system is defective and needs co-ordination is extremely mild in the face of the startling facts which I recently published.

You say you will keep before you the plea of the Professional Fire Brigades Association to create a national fire service.

That is all to the good, but kindly forget there are any pigeon-holes in your office.

This is a crying need, for, as I have shown, the fire services are riddled with inefficiency, while some few branches are strongly suspected of graft and plain robbery.

JOHN BULL.

**His Honour JUDGE TURNER,**
*Westminster County Court*

YOUR HONOUR,—My sincere congratulations on your outspoken remarks in regard to the system of default summonses, which you describe as an abuse of the process of the county court.

You presumably have knowledge only of what comes before you at Westminster County Court, but I can assure you that the system is universal and even more scandalous than you would suppose.

I am going to publish some interesting information on this matter at a later date, which I hope may catch your Honour's eye and encourage you in your good work. JOHN BULL.

**Mr. E. C. PRICE,**
*Charity Organisation Society*

DEAR MR. PRICE,—After half a century with the Enquiry Department of the Charity Organisation Society, you are relinquishing your secretaryship to pass into well-earned retirement.

Had you chosen you could have been perpetually in the limelight, but I do not recall ever having seen your portrait in the Press.

Thus the public you have served has remained in ignorance of some of your finest achievements in combating charity cheats.

But I know how many rogues have been routed through your efforts, and I salute you.

May your days of leisure be as happy as those of your service.

JOHN BULL.

**Mr. JOHN MAXWELL,**
*British Imperial Pictures*

DEAR MAXWELL,—Through you I congratulate the British film industry on the great work you have undertaken for the immediate future.

I see that it is intended to make 120 feature-pictures in British studios during 1931, at a total cost of £1,350,000, and this represents £1,000,000 in salaries and wages to British men and women.

It represents more than that. It is a splendid challenge to America in what was her own special province. You and Messrs. Herbert Wilcox, C. M. Woolf, Michael Balcon, and H. Bruce Woolfe have done greatly.

The American stranglehold on films, silent and vocal, was worse than the flooding of the home market with foreign goods. Every film is propaganda for its point of view.

You have called a halt to that dangerous attack. And some of the British talkies have been better than the best of the foreign stuff.

Give us some more of the same packet! Good luck to all of you in the New Year!

JOHN BULL.

**The Rt. Hon. TOM SHAW, M.P.,**
*Secretary for War*

DEAR MR. SHAW,—In the dyestuffs debate the other night you told the House "quite frankly" that your experts considered it necessary for industry to maintain a chemical research department—presumably for industrial chemists to assist your Chemical Warfare Department.

But you curtly informed the House that if it wants industrial research it must pay for it.

What you did not inform the House is that your Department already spends £140,000 a year on chemical warfare research and has expended £2,000,000 since the war. Ask any hospital laboratory, any industrial laboratory, what it could have done with that money.

JOHN BULL.

## Not from the B.B.C.—

*Sir Oswald Mosley, Sir Robert Horne, Sir William Morris and Lord Beaverbrook, authors of many recent manifestos, sing*

# A Band of Hope for Glory

OSWALD and Willy and Max and Bob,
We are the lads to get on with the job!
No brand of salvation the country lacks,
With Willy and Oswald and Bob and Max
Issuing statements that those who run May read—and discover what must be done!

SIR OSWALD:
Although a little Conserva-tive
By accident of birth,
In Labour's ranks I now contrive
To reconstruct the earth—
If you would know where I would lead,
You must my manifesto read.

SIR ROBERT:
I'm not as well known as I used to be
When in charge of the national £ s. d.;
But any who deem me politic'ly dead,
My new manifesto have clearly not read!

SIR WILLIAM:
Whene'er you think of motor-cars I know you think of me;
And something more than a maker of cars I don't aspire to be.
But fain would guide the nation, with paralysis now smitten,
And, for a start, a brand-new manifesto I have written!

LORD BEAVERBROOK:
Although a millionaire,
With heaps of cash to spare,
I'm far from satisfied; and so I gaily
The Big Drum bang and beat,
With an eye on Downing Street,
While I issue manifestos almost daily!

Great minds, as you know, think alike; and although we don't all think alike about all things, we are all agreed about one thing, namely and to wit: *something must be done!*

When it comes to what precisely the "something" is, we admit a certain lack of unanimity. We are, however, agreed that a necessary preliminary is to issue a manifesto.

This is why manifestos have lately been descending upon the public like a stage snowstorm.

Not since Wilhelm Hohenzollern was broadcasting declarations of war and President Wilson writing notes have pens raced so furiously over paper.

Our enemies, however, assert that even our manifestos are not as numerous as our panaceas, and that the noise of our grinding pens does not drown the sound of grinding axes.

But carping criticism will not prevent our issuing still more manifestos and asserting, still more eloquently than SOMETHING MUST BE DONE! although admittedly, we are no more unanimous about who is to do it than about what it is that is to be done.

Some people think that what the country needs is a Mussolini. But which—er—we mean to say who the deuce is to be the Duce?

Oswald or Willy or Max or Bob—
Who is the man who is best for the job?
Robert or Oswald or Max or Bill—
Which is the actor this role to fill?

Merry we'd be if we knew which one
Has the right "something" which must be done!
But we're all fuddled with figures and "fax"
From Oswald and Will and Robert and Max!

by A. G. GARDINER

# LET HIM DIE!

*"1": Lord Cecil, Champion of Peace, and Kid Berg, world champion boxer-to-be; "9": a tragic figure—R 101; "3": The Stock Exchange trembled under heavy blows and the Imperial Conference did well, though not brilliantly; "0": one triumph—Kingsford Smith's flight, and the India Conference has surpassed expectation*

THE best thing one can say about 1930 is that it will soon be over. It began badly and it is ending worse.

In recent issues of JOHN BULL I have ventured to correct the mood of pessimism that is abroad by laying stress on the more hopeful aspects of a dark outlook.

I have done this for two reasons—first, because nothing is more fatal than to encourage a "defeatist" habit of mind; secondly, because nothing is more certain than that the tide will turn.

We have been in as tight places before indeed, much tighter—and have never failed to emerge from them. And we shall do so again.

But, this said, it must be admitted that on no system of accountancy can we think of the year that is closing as other than a bad debt.

It has been the blackest year since the war—perhaps the blackest year in living memory. There is hardly a direction in which we can look and say, "Here 1930 has done us a good turn."

Let us take stock of the domestic balance-sheet first. It has a depressing look, whether we approach it from the point of view of finance, commerce, or industry.

The collapse in the City has been an almost unprecedented catastrophe.

## *Fraud—and disaster*

The year opened under the shadow of the Hatry frauds and the sensational break in American speculation, and from these ominous beginnings it has moved from disaster to disaster—the crash in Inveresk paper, the alarming disclosures in regard to the great institution the Royal Mail, the exposure of the Blue Bird frauds.

But the toll of 1930 strikes deeper than this. The whole fabric of the investment world has been shaken to its foundations. Public confidence has been shattered and prices have melted like snows in May.

In terms of money the nation is poorer by hundreds of millions than it was when the year opened.

But a far more sinister phase of 1930 is its record in industry. The year has added no fewer than a million workers to the ranks of the unemployed.

Some of this increment is due to the reckless legislation of the autumn of 1929; but, when all reserves are made on this account, the figures register an alarming increase in the number of the genuinely unemployed, and therefore a further low level of trade.

In short, we are between the devil and the deep sea. The less we have coming in, the more we have going out.

With a declining revenue from trade and commerce, there is an increasing drain upon taxation for the maintenance of the surplus population, and therefore diminishing resources for the development of industry at a time when the very existence of industry depends upon wise and bold expenditure.

We are like a nation trying to live by consuming its tail.

Nor, if we turn from these large matters to lesser, have we much to put to the credit side of 1930.

Kingsford Smith's and Miss Amy Johnson's flights to Australia have been the most thrilling personal achievements of the year, and have added substantially to our prestige in the air.

But against these records we have to set the appalling catastrophe to the *R101*, the only redeeming fact in connection with which is that it has ended finally the monstrous folly of gasbag aeronautics, which has cost this country millions of money and against which this journal has ceaselessly protested.

## *A sport slump*

In the realm of sport, it has been a year of almost unmitigated failure. The "ashes" have gone back to Australia, the trophies of tennis have gone to America, "Bobby" Jones has taken across the Atlantic all the honours of golf.

Phil Scott has left the last rags of our heavy-weight boxing reputation in the American ring—a fact in some measure redeemed by the extraordinary achievements of Kid Berg on the other side of the Atlantic.

And if the domestic balance-sheet is bad, the reckoning in the wider world is no better. The collapse in the price of commodities has impoverished every nation from China to Peru.

The slump in trade is a universal phenomenon, and unemployment is as rampant in Australia, Germany, even in the United States, as here.

And in the wake of bad trade has come a plague of revolutionary explosions all through the Latin world, from Spain to South America.

All this has reacted upon us; but still more disastrous has been the upheaval in India, which has assumed a gravity of the first magnitude.

The boycott of British goods has deepened the tragedy of Lancashire, whose prosperity in the past has been so largely dependent upon its vast Indian trade.

Nor has 1930 improved the landscape of European politics. It would be truer to say it has worsened it.

For the meeting of the Preparatory Commission shows that disarmament in any real sense is as far off as ever, and without disarmament there can be no prospect of enduring European peace.

The refusal of France and her allies to disarm is driving disarmed Germany into a clash of Fascism and Sovietism, and out of that clash nothing but trouble can come to Europe.

One thing is plain. It is impossible to keep Germany permanently disarmed and ringed round with bayonets, and if the ultimate result of French policy is to link up Germany with Russia, it will be the end of European civilisation as we have known it.

This is not a cheerful review; but dark though the story of 1930 is, it is not a matter for despair.

Things are rarely quite as bad as they look, and the forces that make for an equilibrium in world affairs have yet to be reckoned with. Some of them are now visibly at work.

Take, for example, the case of the City.

It may be cold comfort to those who have lost everything to know that the catastrophe of 1930 has led to a drastic spring-cleaning in that quarter. But the fact is important in its bearing upon the future of the world of investment and speculation.

As to trade, there is evidence that the disequilibrium between goods and money has reached its maximum, and that the movement towards restored equilibrium is in progress.

The discovery of the United States and France that hoarding the world's gold does not keep poverty from their doors is helpful in this respect.

There are signs of a more reasonable accommodation between employer and employed in this country, and it is a rare feather in the cap of 1930 that it has witnessed no serious industrial conflict.

## *What of the dawn?*

The Government, in setting up a really impartial commission to deal with the scandal of the "dole," has shown that it means business in this important matter.

While the Imperial Conference did well, though not brilliantly, the Round-Table Conference has so far surpassed our utmost expectations.

If it can—as now seems possible—reconcile Great Britain and India, it will be a priceless political achievement, and incidentally a great fillip to Lancashire.

And if this country takes a bold line on disarmament, the League of Nations may yet stop the drift of Europe into another war.

It is too much to expect that the New Year will carry us far in this programme of recovery.

But it is not too much to expect that it will make a beginning, and that a year hence we shall be able to look back upon 1930 as the darkest hour before the dawn.

*Homely Wisdom*—by CHANCELLOR R. J. CAMPBELL, D.D.

# The Little More

EVERYONE knows the suggestive line:

"Oh the little more—and how much it is!
And the little less—and what worlds away!"

The truth it expresses has been brought home to me lately by reading of the suicide of a man who got tired of the apparent meaninglessness of life.

He knew no one, he said, who was prepared to give something for nothing or to do a kindness without expecting a benefit in return.

Everyone seemed to him to be on the make, flattering the powerful, paying court to the rich, or trading on the selfish passions of the mob in order to secure some personal advantage.

Public men and private citizens alike he regarded as a lot of humbugs, pretending sentiments they did not feel and making promises they had no intention of fulfilling. Sincerity was the rarest of the virtues, he said.

What a revelation of his own heart! He reminds one of the cynical philosopher of old who went out with a dark lantern by daylight looking for an honest man and failing to find one.

Certainly he would not find one with such an instrument; it was the darkness of his own spirit that blinded him to the beauty and tenderness that exist in the world, and not least among the poor and lowly.

I once heard of a youth who left home because he said it was a cold hell.

A cold hell! How many homes are like it!—places where a sneer is more frequent than a smile, or a smile with a sneer in it is like the flick of a whiplash across the face; a place where the word of sympathy and encouragement is never spoken, and chilling blame is habitual; a place where the dreary drizzle of depreciation and mutual dislike is the norm of intercourse from morn till eve and year to year. A cold hell indeed!

In a squabble between husband and wife that found its way into the police-court, the former said he had always done his duty by the latter. "His duty!" stormed the wife, "I want something better than his duty."

She put her finger on the sore spot. This is just what is wrong in all such cases as the above-mentioned. It is not so much what we do as the spirit in which we do it that matters in human relations.

That little more—the spirit that sweetens the deed, the spirit of cheerful kindness and readiness to help. It is all that is needed to blow the fumes of despair away and fill life with laughter and song.

# He's After a THIEF with a HUNDRED FACES

*Superintendent Cooper, of the "Big Five," one of the many police chiefs who will appreciate our New Year wish*

IF we were asked to name the most-wanted crook to-day we should say "Cyril Sinclair," though this is but one of innumerable names by which he is known.

He is a picturesque, protean rogue whose varied exploits have baffled police chiefs throughout the land, although countless crimes have been laid at his door.

The trouble is that he is constantly on the move, and, being a master of disguise, adopts many parts in his profession of plundering the public.

One day sees him as a company promoter, the next as a navvy.

He will be actor, detective, lover, bereaved widower, an independent magnate, a farmer, a tanner or a bank clerk in turn; but his victims are mostly poor people.

There is one point especially which has greatly puzzled Scotland Yard officers, who, with the provincial police, are working in an endeavour to run Sinclair to earth.

## *Master of disguise*

No one can guess where he keeps the extensive wardrobe of disguises from which he draws from day to day, for he travels light, and combs the country from one end to the other.

He recently strode imperiously into an hotel at Sheffield, and, demanding the best room available, gave his name as "G. Armstrong," of London.

He created a good impression at once by his important air. His car had scarcely been garaged before the rumour was going round that he was one of the highest officials of the noted United Dairies Company, Ltd.

After dinner on the eve of his arrival he became friendly with many business men, who found him a most engaging companion.

Amongst the many diversified topics which "Mr. G. Armstrong" fluently discussed was the reason for his presence in Sheffield.

His firm, he confided, was extending its interests there.

For a few days he was a popular and respected figure. Then he drove off in his car one morning to keep an appointment.

It was later to become apparent that he had kept several, but he never again returned to the hotel, where his luggage, consisting of two empty bags, still remains.

Not only did the management find that its substantial bill was unpaid, but several rooms had been ransacked and numerous valuables were missing.

His claims to be a representative of the United Dairies Company, Ltd., were utterly false, though the impudent pose is a favourite one of his.

But what has been related so far is but a phase of his operations in Sheffield.

## *Landladies' man*

While staying in style at the hotel he defrauded numerous other people in a variety of roles in circumstances which can hardly have left him breathing-space.

In the aliases of Roberts, Stewart and Wells, he made a tour of adjacent towns, engaging a succession of apartments.

To some of his prospective landladies he posed as an insurance supervisor; to others as a foreman-engineer or a bank official.

To all he told the same story of requiring temporary lodgings while in Sheffield on important business.

Then, having inspired confidence by the sheer weight of his personality, he obtained substantial loans or pocketed any articles of value that lay to hand.

So deftly and swiftly did he work that his few days in Sheffield yielded him many hundreds of pounds in cash and kind.

And this only represents one series of coups.

In recent months he has operated similarly in Portsmouth, Lincoln, Barnsley, Crewe, Southampton, Fleetwood, Watford, Hull, Newark, Garstang, Bridgwater, Poole, Taunton, Hereford, Liverpool, Braintree, Oldham, Wigan, Oswestry, Aylesbury, Glossop, Chesterfield, Torquay, Dewsbury and Folkestone, to mention only a few.

## *Hundred warrants*

More than a hundred warrants are outstanding for his arrest.

His resourcefulness will be appreciated when we add that he has been a "wanted" man since November, 1929, though operating almost daily with impunity, while victims were lodging complaints almost as constantly.

At Wigan he perpetrated a particularly despicable coup. Giving the name of John Muirhouse, he visited a widow whose husband had been killed in an accident.

He seemed the personification of benevolence, and was disguised to appear much older than he actually is, his pose being that of a lawyer of independent means who had made it his life's work to take up the cases of the oppressed.

## *"Press" blind*

Stating that he had seen mention of her case in the Press, he offered to help the widow to recover compensation, pointing out that people in her position were in great danger of being cheated unless prompted by expert advice.

The poor widow, who kept a humble boarding-house, was delighted at the offer, so, in response to his request, she hurried away to get all the papers she possessed relating to her bereavement.

Left alone, Muirhouse made a rapid tour of the adjacent rooms and pocketed several articles of value before the widow rejoined him.

Then, promising to communicate with her as soon as he had looked into her case, he borrowed several pounds on the excuse of having left his wallet at home.

At several places he has gained entry to houses by posing as a public official employed by the local council to inspect premises in a certain area.

In each case, by practising dexterous sleight-of-hand, he has been able to appropriate articles of value while keeping the householder engaged in conversation.

Women are the easy prey of this rogue.

At Southport he stayed for some weeks at a small hotel as a railway "area superintendent," going out daily as if to work.

His host was well known, and, becoming very friendly with the daughter of the house, he went to a local jeweller to select a present.

The mere mention of his host's name was sufficient. He was permitted to take away several articles of jewellery on approval.

That was the last seen of him.

The hotel proprietor is to-day bemoaning a large unpaid bill and the loss of a valuable gold watch and several other articles which his impressive guest took away with him.

Sinclair, in this instance, passed as Edward Lewitt.

It would be impossible to name all his other aliases.

## *Picks on the poor*

He has used hundreds, including Bates, Roberts, Wells, Willis, Reade, Martin, Robinson, Mackie, Gordon, Mason, Murray, Mead, Cookson, Moorhouse, Coventry, Bertram, Stenehan and Nicholson.

Sad indeed are some of the cases that have been reported against him.

As we have hinted, the tragic part of his operations is that many of his victims are poor and uninsured, so that the losses affect them badly.

We hope his arrest and incarceration for a lengthy period in a prison-cell will be one of the outstanding police achievements of the New Year.

# *Jail for an Impudent* BUSINESS JUGGLER

IN our issue for November 29 we unmasked a man named Thomas David Harris, who was then trading in the name of Thomas Bell and Sons, from an office in Glenthorne Road, Hammersmith.

He styled himself a "business transfer agent," but we showed him to be a trickster who had cheated a West Ealing woman of a very substantial fee.

*"Six months" from Sir Thomas*

Our article had barely appeared when Harris called upon this woman with an agreement for making a refund. One clause provided for the repayment of £35 by December 29.

His impudence in making such an offer will be appreciated when we say that even at that moment he was waiting on remand to appear at Acton before Sir Thomas Forster, K.C., to answer a charge of uttering a forged document with intent to defraud.

He had, in fact, written an enthusiastic reference for himself in order to obtain possession of a flat. This reference he had passed off as having come from a former landlady of his.

The situation is not without its humour, for the landlady whose good name he had thus misused would have been the last person to furnish him with a reference.

During his tenancy with her he had run up heavy arrears of rent, and actually had a removal-van at the door when she finally called in the bailiff.

Faced with the prospect of losing his furniture, Harris paid the amount owing, but at his next lodgings he incurred debts which are still outstanding.

For his ingenuity in faking the eulogistic reference he has now been sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

This punishment is not a bit too severe in view of his unfavourable past record, which includes at least two terms of imprisonment for obtaining money by false pretences.

# A Callous Christmas Eviction

*Mr. and Mrs. Lyness and three of their seven children. "They had to suffer all the ignominy of being turned into the street"*

CHRISTMAS, 1930, is a season of sadness for a number of small children and their parents who have been evicted from their homes at Bingley Yorkshire, in most pathetic circumstances.

"My heart was torn with emotion," comments one of our readers in writing to us on the subject. "Bingley used to be called 'The Throstle Nest of Old England'—what can you call it now?"

The sentiment expressed in these lines is typical of the feeling that has been aroused amongst most of the inhabitants of this little market town.

When we have told the tragic story we know that the sympathies of all our readers will be equally stirred.

Four adults and fourteen children whose ages range from fourteen months to ten years are the victims in this sorry affair, in which the Bingley Urban Council seems to have acted with appalling harshness.

## *Into the street*

Their homes had been condemned under the local slum-clearance policy, and though due notice was given, the authorities apparently had no alternative accommodation to offer.

Mr. James Lyness, one of the evicted tenants, has been ailing for some time, but he did succeed in finding a dwelling for his wife and seven children on the eve of the expiration of his notice.

But before he could conclude all the necessary arrangements and have his goods removed, Mr. Lyness found his little home invaded.

He and his family had to suffer all the ignominy and distress of being turned into the street, while their precious belongings were piled beside them in chaos.

Nothing in the world could excuse such harshness.

Surely this family could have been given the extra few hours grace that would have enabled them to remove to their new quarters in comfort?

But though this case is monstrous enough and reflects very discreditably upon those authorities whose callousness rendered it possible, the plight of the other family is infinitely worse.

The breadwinner, Mr. Hugh Caine, had been utterly unable to find any other shelter for his wife and seven children.

Yet although the authorities should have known perfectly well that this family had nowhere to go, they did not stay their hand.

Out into the gutter the unfortunate family had to go, to stand dejectedly beside the few cherished belongings that had gone to make up their humble home.

The evictions took place on a damp murky and bitterly cold day, and the plight of the shivering victims aroused the sympathy of every onlooker.

Many of the women who witnessed the scene could not restrain their tears.

## *Go to the workhouse!*

As usual, it was the poor who helped the poor, while the authorities, who had occasioned all the misery and suffering, apparently made no move to help.

So far as the council was concerned, there was adequate alternative accommodation in the workhouse!

Happily, the homeless ones have been spared this further ignominy, for kindly neighbours have come to the rescue, and several doors have been generously thrown open to Caine and his family.

This means that they are not without shelter for the time being, but the sting remains in the fact that they should be separated in the season of rejoicing.

The sight of the younger children being led away to strange homes in ones and twos, tearful and dazed by a calamity they could scarcely understand, would have moved the hardest hearts to compassion.

And their father fought for England and home during the war and was twice wounded.

What has the Bingley Council to say for itself?

Was it necessary to select a bitterly cold winter's day for turning little children, and even a baby in arms, out into the street without any shelter whatever?

## *Tell us*

A council's duty is surely to safeguard its citizens and not to harass them. It is up to the authorities at Bingley to make some public explanation.

# LONG LANE WITH A £600 TURNING

GARRATT LANE, in South-west London, is a long and winding thoroughfare, with many bends, but without a turning in all its three miles from Tooting High Street to the heart of Wandsworth town.

It is a long lane, a lane which tries the patience of the man who plods along, and through which he who thinks to ramble is apt to change his mind and take a 'bus.

On the centre of the table in the back parlour of No. 476 there is a much-worn and tattered dictionary—an edition which is prised and valued by its owner, Mr. Thomas Stevens, despite its age and although its leaves are loose.

The game of word-hunting fascinates him mostly because in JOHN BULL'S Crossword page he finds an opportunity of airing his knowledge—and the possibility of a rich reward for well-directed skill.

In the afternoons, when business is slack, and in the evenings, often until long past midnight, Mr. Stevens has plodded on, comparing the possibility of this word with the likelihood of that.

He never turned back—he persevered. He neither gave up hope nor did he take a 'bus—he plodded on.

His dictionary became yet still more worn and dilapidated, and Mr. Stevens sat up later at night determined to find a turning in the lane.

And then, sitting right on the tail-end of the year, came the reward for his efforts, a welcome letter from the Competition Editor announcing him the winner of £600 in Crosswords No. 92.

# That Chameleon Ministry

WE have constantly cited cases in which the Ministry of Pensions has gone out of its way to find excuses for withholding money due to ex-soldiers broken in the war.

But we have had no more glaring instance of this than that of Mr. W. McIntosh, of Shettleston, Glasgow.

This poor fellow had the misfortune to lose his right leg as a result of wounds in 1917, and was awarded a disability pension of 50 per cent.

The years rolled by and this ex-soldier was unaware that he was not receiving his correct allowance.

Then, in 1928, when his case came to our notice, a medical certificate told us that he should have been receiving a 60 per cent. pension.

Due representation was made to the Ministry of Pensions, which took up quite a firm stand.

"There is no record of any amputation having taken place since discharge," ran the official reply, "and it cannot be held that any fractional changes which may have taken place in the condition of Mr. McIntosh's stump during the past nine and a half years are such as would justify an increase of pension."

Had this flat refusal been accepted, this disabled man might have been cheated of his rights.

But the Ministry was again approached, and, under pressure, granted an increased rate of pension.

This chameleon change is tantamount to an admission that the first refusal was unwarranted; but it does not fully illustrate the Ministry's curious mental processes.

For some reason which officialdom alone can explain, Mr. McIntosh, though belatedly granted his just increase of pension, has only been given arrears as from November, 1929.

It is impossible to fathom why this date should have been selected. Mr. McIntosh, as we say, lost his limb in 1917.

There has been no re-amputation, and the position is precisely the same as it was when the Ministry was first approached on his behalf

Apparently, the Ministry contends that it is making a "special concession" in granting any increase at all.

This is monstrous, for obviously if Mr. McIntosh is entitled to the increase he has been entitled to it all along.

The Ministry's attitude is indefensible, and its treatment of this case constitutes one of the worst of many scandalous decisions which have emanated from that department.

# A chorus of praise from delighted readers

"A PROUD READER."
Received Christmas Gift Package with which I am more than pleased. I shall be proud to recommend it.—(Mrs.) G. Nash, 10, Clarendon Road, Reading.

"EXCELLENT."
"... It is an excellent gift and I feel sure you are justified in your valuation of it. ..."—Mr. T. Ashbrook, Old Pale, Tattenhall, Nr. Chester.

"SEEING IS BELIEVING."
"... words cannot express what the 'THREE-fold' Christmas Package is like. It takes the age-worn phrase of 'seeing is believing' to convince."—Mr. W. Bass, 7, Elizabeth Place, Clyde Rd., Tottenham, N.15.

"THE BEST YET."
"... my thanks and appreciation for the package. The value it represents surpasses all previous offers ..."—Mr. A. C. Gissing, 48, Harwich Rd., Colchester.

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This Gift Voucher will be accepted as One Shilling in part payment of the famous "John Bull" Lever Filler 8/- Pen (guaranteed for five years). Only one voucher will be accepted in part payment for each pen. Available only until January 31st.

Pen and Pencil are packed in an attractive presentation box. Name engraved in gold on Pen, 6d. extra.

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Fine, medium, broad nib (cross out grades not required). Your name engraved in gold on Pen, 6d. extra. Write in CAPITALS name or initials desired.

(7) Cross cheque/p.o. "& Co.," and make payable to "John Bull." J.B., 27/12/30.

# DON'T LET INDIGESTION SPOIL YOUR XMAS

AT this season it is difficult to avoid taking foods which are richer than usual. If you have a tendency to heartburn, flatulence or other form of indigestion, it is important to remember that Christmas fare will probably aggravate the trouble. As most digestive disorder is due to excess stomach acid, the obvious way to avoid indigestion and keep free from discomfort is to counteract acidity. For this purpose doctors use and recommend half a teaspoonful of 'Bisurated' Magnesia or two to four tablets in water after meals. This instantly neutralises excess acid, quickly relieves pain and discomfort and restores normal, healthy digestion. 'Bisurated' Magnesia also soothes and heals the acid-inflamed stomach lining. Every chemist sells 'Bisurated' Magnesia in powder (plain or mint flavour) and in tablet form, and if you will get a 1s. 3d. package you can eat and enjoy whatever you like without fear of digestive discomfort.

**'BISURATED' MAGNESIA** Regd.
POWDER—1/3—TABLETS

*Note:—'Bisurated' Magnesia powder is now available with Mint flavour as well as in the unflavoured form—both afford instant relief.*

# UP AND DOING!

**—that's what you'll feel like if you take "GRIPS" Pastilles.**

Let these handy pastilles take care of your throat and chest during the party season. Hot air and chilly air both have their special dangers, but you need not fear them if you take "GRIPS."

"GRIPS" contain Menthol, Eucalyptus and Liquorice—and they are pleasantly antiseptic. Get some to-day. Sold everywhere.

10D. PER ¼lb.

# GRIPS
FIRST-AID PASTILLES
Made by Lightburns Ltd., Accrington.

## Weekly Informations from SIR WYNDHAM CHILDS

# LOTTERY KING Exposed

IN my Weekly Informations for December 13, I exclusively revealed that a notorious Turf character, named George Frederick Dew, was the man behind the scenes in the Christmas draw organised by the Empire Anti-Prohibition Society.

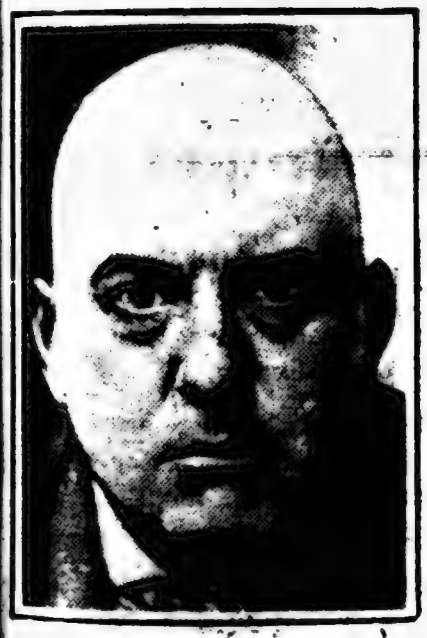
Its title, to begin with, was very ill-conceived, since many people have wrongly confused it with the Empire Anti-Prohibition League, of Pall-Mall, London, S.W., of which Lord Lonsdale is president.

Events have moved very swiftly since my article appeared.

The society's office in Sicilian House, Southampton Row, London, has been raided and two men—James Malcolm Murray and George Dew—have been sentenced. Murray being fined and Dew, under the name of George Morton Reid, receiving three months' imprisonment.

This is very gratifying, especially since my contention that Dew was the real brains of the scheme was fully borne out in court.

Mention was made of Dew's previous convictions for various offences under the Lottery Act, but little or nothing was said of his truly amazing career.



*"This arch-scoundrel"—Aleister Crowley*

In view of the present developments, I cannot do better than let my readers know something more of the man Dew, who conceived this Empire Anti-Prohibition Society's draw.

Dew was also behind a scheme that had been conducted from Bournemouth in the name of Puttock and Company.

The Bournemouth offices were the last word in magnificence. Furniture was specially brought from London; the walls were hung with fine sporting prints, and telephones and tape-machines were installed.

Those who visited the premises could not fail to be favourably impressed.

Dew, who was then known as M. K. Puttock, together with his associates, was ever polished and courteous.

### *Smoked trap*

And there was always a generous dispensation of whisky, champagne and cigars.

A gentleman who answered an advertisement calling for retired Naval or military officers to take up posts with good prospects, was received in this atmosphere, and never dreamt that he was walking into a trap.

He was told quite frankly that Puttock and Company were commission-agents, acting chiefly for well-known trainers and owners of racehorses.

So considerable were the commissions that it was necessary to split them up amongst various bookmakers. For lending his name in this respect the gentleman was promised 10 per cent. on all net winnings.

For a time the arrangement worked smoothly, but when the gentleman had placed commissions resulting in a loss of several hundred pounds, Puttock and Company suddenly decamped, leaving him to settle with his bookmaker.

In another scheme of the same calibre, run in the name of Hammond and Co., Dew had headquarters in St. James's, London, but arranged for letters to be addressed to a small office near Piccadilly Circus.

Replies to his advertisements poured in, and Dew used personally to collect them and take them to his headquarters to be dealt with. Here again numerous agents were ultimately left stranded.

In these circumstances I think everyone will agree that it is a good thing that Dew is behind the bars again.

But what of the other lottery to which I exclusively drew attention in my previous article—that being conducted by the Premier Auto-Vending Machine Co., Ltd., of Guernsey?

I mentioned a Mr. Jack Burns, of Mecklenburgh Square, London, W., as director of Town and Country Automatics, Ltd., one of the companies named in the literature of the Guernsey lottery. He states that he resigned his directorship on October 13 last.

### *"Meanwhile —"*

This reminds me that there is another Mr. Jack Burns, of Duke Street, St. James's, a popular figure in racing circles, who asks me to dissociate him from the venture. This I willingly do.

I do not think that anyone would connect him with the lottery promoted by the Guernsey or any other concern.

In all fairness I am naturally anxious to take this opportunity of making this fact clear

Meanwhile, I hope that the authorities are not neglecting to enquire into the Guernsey lottery.

In conclusion, I ought to mention that some of my readers who have been saddled with books of tickets in the Anti-Prohibition lottery, and who have been selling them to their friends in all innocence, have written to me for advice as to their best course.

The only action possible for them is to refund any moneys they may still have by them to the subscribers concerned.

*"Events have moved quickly since I revealed . . ."*

# Very THYNNE Book Story

FROM shark-fishing to book-publishing is a far cry, but not too far for the boundless enterprise of the company promoter.

Such men as Major Robin Thynne, for instance, of Robert Street, Adelphi, and Plymouth, Devon, managing director of the Mandrake Press, Ltd., of Museum Street, Bloomsbury.

Major Thynne and his fertile schemes have before now formed subject for comment in these columns.

Our last mention of him was in connection with Marine Products, Ltd., a company formed for shark-fishing, and which ended an inglorious career after securing from the public £85,000, who discovered too late that all the sharks were not in the sea.

The history of that concern possessed all the elements of romance

The major's last venture is even stranger

The Mandrake Press, Ltd., was formed quite recently to take over as a going concern an already established publishing business.

The capital is £12,000, of which about £7,000 has been issued. Glowing accounts of the firm's prospects and financial position have been prepared and circulated to potential shareholders.

Much play has been made with great literary names, whose books the Mandrake Press, Ltd., says it is about to collect and publish.

We shall be extremely surprised if any of these works ever see the light of day. Our latest information is that it is the firm's creditors who wish to do the collecting, and they will be hard put to it to achieve their aim.

We would be less sanguine of this did we not know something of the genesis of the venture and the past history of two of those behind it.

### *Many-thumbed pies*

In the first place, Thynne was introduced into the business by that strange and obnoxious character, Aleister Crowley.

Crowley had contracts for the publication of his books by the previous Mandrake Press Company. It was in his interest to keep the company alive.

So the ingenious Major Thynne was called on to get new capital. Our records of his financial history go back a good many years: soap, shark-skins, shipping, waterproof clothing and charity ballots are only a few of his many fields of endeavour.

### *Exposed*

In the official files at Somerset House of the Mandrake Press, Ltd., Thynne describes himself as also a director of Organisations, Ltd. This concern is another company of his which we exposed two years ago.

Associated with Thynne on the board of this weird book company is J. C. S. MacAllan, who describes himself as a civil engineer.

His qualifications for running a publishing business are difficult to find.

The secretary of the company is a man named Regardie, who has been acting as the agent in England of Aleister Crowley

Rumours of Crowley's suicide were current a few weeks ago. No doubt he thought it was a good time to disappear.

Our exposure a few weeks ago of his renewed attempt to start his money-making "black magic" practices in London and of his foul picture exhibits was a sufficient warning.

Crowley's pictures were never shown. Numerous creditors are looking for him.

After Thynne was installed at the Mandrake Press, Crowley went back to the Continent and is now in Berlin. After his expulsion from France he is no doubt lying exceedingly low.

### *Deserted wife*

He left behind him in England a young woman whom he married. She is now destitute and abandoned by this arch-scoundrel.

In view of the malodorous careers of the persons we have mentioned as being directly connected with the fortunes of this new company, we cannot believe in the prospects of success held out in its imposing circulars.

We cannot believe that after soap and sharks and shipping the world of books and art is going to benefit by Thynne's presence in its midst.

We do not doubt, however, that the new venture might prove profitable to Major Thynne, if not to the public who are being called upon to entrust their cash.

# SQUARE blade-ends

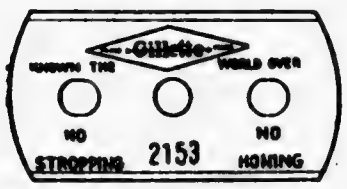
*The New Gillette Blade also fits the old Gillette Razor. Prices, 2/3 a packet of five—4/6 a packet of ten.*

**GREATLY REDUCED IN PRICE**

*Genuine*

**GILLETTE**

**3-hole**




**BLADES**

*for the original*

**GILLETTE RAZOR**

*Reduced to*

**2/6** A PACKET OF 10

**1/3** A PACKET OF 5

## *Easier and safer to handle*

**HOW often in the past have you dropped your old rounded blade on to floor or wash-basin and blunted its edge?**

**Note the ends of this new blade. They are square. A square end is much easier and safer to handle with wet fingers.**

**But even more important, the ends of the new blade are more flush with the ends of the razor cap and guard . . . much easier now to reach those inaccessible little corners around the mouth, nose and ears.**

**But there are so many other big improvements that you won't fully appreciate them until you try this *New* Gillette Blade in the *New* Gillette Razor. Here are just a few:**

**No more wiping or drying of parts . . . New blade resists rust . . . "Razor pull" is banished for ever by new reinforced corners of razor cap and cut-out corners of blade. Dropping the razor can no longer put the blade out of alignment—no longer spoil your shave.**

**Try the *New* Gillette Blade to-day. On sale everywhere. Gillette Safety Razor Limited, 184-8, Great Portland Street, London, W.1.**

Gillette

# The *New* Gillette Shave

*"Old methods of farming . . . as primitive as the use of bows and arrows" — very little advance on this*

# OUR DOWN on Misery Farm

*by*

## E. Roffe Thompson

"CAN nothing be done," asked the Duke of York the other day, "to help our farmers?" To which the right answer seems to me to be that a lot can be done—but only our farmers can do it.

Whenever British agriculture is depressed—in my lifetime it seems to have been its normal condition—remedies of every kind are suggested; but no one ever mentions self-help.

Yet I am convinced that there alone lies the way to the restoration of the prosperity of the countryside.

The truth is that there is an unreasoning and quite unfounded wave of pessimism flooding the country.

If it is blackest where farming is concerned, it is precisely there that the foundation for it is slenderest.

Let us consider some solid facts.

### The wicked Dane!

Although our soil and our climate are far better than Denmark's, corn in the latter country produces 23.8 cwts. to the acre as compared with only 17.2 cwts. here.

The wholesale price of bacon in this country to-day is 5½d. to 7d. a lb.

We are told that pig-breeding in this country is being killed by the foreigner, chiefly Denmark, from whom we import some £50,000,000 worth of pigmeat each year.

Yet the Dane grows his pig, kills it, cures it and transports it to England—to get 5½d. to 7d. a lb. for it.

If the British farmer cannot meet competition like this when his market is on his doorstep, it is surely more the fault of the British farmer than the wickedness of the Dane.

Let us hear what a British farmer has to say on the subject.

Mr. James Alston, who farms 1,700 acres himself, and who has an active interest in another 1,000 acres in East Anglia, recently said:

"Certainly the big British farmer knows his business as well as the Danish farmer does, but the smaller man in this country has not half his knowledge of stock-feeding, stock-breeding and artificial manuring; *nor, unfortunately, does he seem very anxious to learn.*

"In Norfolk we have had for many years an agricultural station that has done most valuable research work, part of it on actual farms in the country, but the smaller farmers take very little interest in it."

### Old tools—and fools?

And to sharpen the already keen edge of his remarks, Mr. Alston went on to tell of a 17,000-acre farm in Germany which cut down its annual manure bill by no less than £10,000—merely by having the soil of each field tested, and then applying only those manures in which the soil was deficient.

It is that sort of thing another British farmer, Mr. Douglas Bomford, must have had in mind when he said bluntly:

"Old methods of farming are as primitive as the use of bows and arrows in warfare, and will have to be displaced entirely if we are to have a progressive industry."

The choice of the British farmer to-day, even the small man, lies between science and slosh. Unfortunately, many of them are choosing slosh.

### Why compete?

For how can a man using horse-ploughs at costs varying from 18s. to 25s. per acre, doing five acres a week, compete with a man who uses a cheap and efficient tractor on the same type of land, and who ploughs twenty-five acres a week at 12s. per acre?

Let us still go on looking at solid facts.

You cannot hear agriculture discussed without hearing wheat mentioned—whereupon the air becomes thick with talk of "quotas" and "subsidies."

And I agree that wheat is, from one point of view, the crux of the whole problem

The facts are these—that the vast prairies of Canada and the huge wheatfields of America and the Argentine have been so developed by the use of machinery and scientific methods that, not only can the wheat be produced cheaper on the spot, but the shipping freights are often less than the railway charges from the south to the north of this country.

The British farmer wants to know how he can be expected to compete against this highly skilled and organised production—and what answer is there except that he can't? No one asks him to do the impossible.

The obvious thing to do is to leave this sort of competition alone and concentrate on producing the things in which he has a natural advantage, even over the progressive Danes.

### Figures that shout

Dairy-farming, poultry and egg production, vegetables, fruit and pig-raising are the clearly indicated lines of development for British agriculture.

It is no use attempting to compete with the unbeatable, nor is it any use expecting the British public to subsidise an uneconomic commodity merely to allow the farmer to avoid the necessity of "rationalisation."

Figures can sometimes talk with a loud voice

In 1929 we imported £55,000,000 worth of butter, £14,000,000 of cheese, £17,500,000 of eggs, £3,000,000 of poultry, £11,000,000 of vegetables, £12,000,000 of non-tropical fruits, £36,000,000 of beef and £19,000,000 of mutton.

Yet British farmers produced £200,000,000 of these very products themselves—and produced them at a profit.

On the other hand, imports of cereals in the same year amounted to £72,300,000, against which the British farmer produced £37,000,000, *most of it at a loss.*

Could any lesson be plainer?

"The truth is," said an agricultural expert to me the other day, "mixed farms are no longer any good. Farmers must be specialists.

"They must make up their minds what they can grow profitably—and grow it. And they must learn to become business men.

"They must build up their own selling organisations and cease to be at the mercy of market 'rings' and profiteering retailers."

### Self-help

Is it surprising that we alone among the nations of the world buy two-thirds of our food from abroad?

Yet we have all the natural advantages we could wish for—rich and fertile soil, freedom from destructive pests and immunity from the disruptive forces of Nature.

It is not all inefficient. There is a man at Reading who farms 145 acres, employs twenty-three men all the year round, and who has a yearly turnover of £20,000

There is another in Kent who farms 200 acres, employs twenty men constantly, and has a similar turnover.

There is Mr. W. P. Seabrook, with 700 acres, who has no difficulty whatever in making the cultivation of the soil pay. And these men have done nothing miraculous.

They have merely indulged in self-help, utilised science and organised efficiently. Is there any real reason why others should not do what they have done?

I am not a pessimist. I don't think I could become one if I tried. There is too much evidence all round me of the possibilities in British agriculture, and of the opportunities that are lying waiting to be seized and exploited.

### The gold pig

When I see one man making £4,000 a year out of 800 pigs, I cannot believe that we need annually be 10,000,000 short in this country if the right methods of production and marketing were used by our producers.

Mr. William Brunton, the biggest producer-retailer of Grade A milk in the North of England, says: "We farmers must save ourselves by our right arm."

I hope I have shown the profound wisdom of his advice.

THE HUMAN MACHINE

## Spread Outwards

MR. TOM SHAW once protested plaintively that he couldn't produce work schemes like rabbits out of a hat. He had discovered that to do anything effectively needs a good deal of preparation and a good deal of hard work.

There are a lot of people who have yet to make this discovery—people who are bored, fed up, positive that life's a dull affair, with no opportunities and no interest. They've got nothing because they've never really tried to get anything.

We can't all get to the top. There's only one branch on a tree that ultimately rises higher than the rest and gets all the fresh air and sunlight there is; but have you ever troubled to notice what the other branches do?

Since they can't climb up they spread out, and in the end they get just as much air and sunshine as the topmost bough.

There's no sense in just running along in little narrow grooves, however smooth the running may be. We're human beings—not tramcars. We can go where we will, and our minds are not confined by either space or time.

"Lack of interests," said a writer the other day, "pre-supposes lack of interest. It is stupid people who are in perpetual danger of boredom."

That's the whole point in a nutshell.

# THAT LAST-MINUTE GIFT

## Send De Reszke Cigarettes ready packed for posting

There's still time to send that nearly forgotten gift. It's waiting for you at your tobacconist's, ready packed for posting. An elegant white-and-green-and-gold tin of De Reszke Virginias packed and sealed in a stout cardboard container. All you have to do is to fill in the name and address spaces on the packet and drop it in the letter-box. What could be simpler?

# DE RESZKE

## *Virginias*

***'Ivory'-tipped or Plain***

*De Reszke Virginias, the "Aristocrat of Cigarettes." Packed ready for the post: In Tins: 50 for 2/6; 100 for 5/-.*

*Also in elegant Card Cabinets, as illustrated (greetings card enclosed) 200 for 10/-. Decorated tins 150 for 7/6.*

# Without Fear or Favour

THE Army Council wants 10,000 men for the Army. There is something like a panic. Recruiting is falling off and the cry is that the "dole" is to blame.

So the Army Council, in desperation, has gone back to old methods.

Men will once more be given the opportunity of enlisting in regiments appropriate to their home county.

This is an excellent move, for there is added inducement to a recruit when he can enlist and serve with men of his own town or village.

It has been suggested quite seriously by some people that the revival of traditional regimental uniforms, with all the splendour of scarlet and gold and blue, might also act as a stimulus to recruiting.

But this does not impress us.

Scarlet and gold may have proved a powerful lure in olden and recent times, and may still make some measure of appeal to the simple minded. But it will never attract the best recruits; the Army Council should seek a far more practical solution.

Whether this bid for new recruits will prove successful or not time alone can show; but we cannot help feeling that the authorities are overlooking many important aspects of the problem.

NO sane man wants any further wars; yet no sane man would say that it is unnecessary to maintain a peace-time Army.

The Army is necessary; and men are necessary for the Army. If it is to hold its own in peace time the Army must compete with civil life by making its terms of service sufficiently attractive to young men.

There, we feel convinced, lies the key to the situation.

Young men are not troubling to consider the Army in the light of a profession, or a calling, or a trade. One glance at the terms of service assures them that they can do better in civil life.

When it is a case of good pay against poor pay and peacock plumes, of mechanical efficiency against spit and polish, then peacock plumes and spit and polish are at a discount.

The average potential Army recruit is a full-grown man, who, if he remained in civil life, would hope and expect to earn a living wage.

Is it logic to expect him to be attracted to the colours if he is not assured of approximately equal rewards?

Upon the most liberal estimate, the full-time pay of a British private soldier to-day is 37s. a week. This miserable figure *includes* the value of his food and clothing, which the War Office estimates at 23s.

IN actual cash the newly-enlisted soldier receives only 14s. a week. This must cover everything over and above his rations and kit, such as cleaning materials, cigarettes, tobacco, beer, sweets, jam, or similar delicacies, civilian clothes, amusements and possible remittance to dependants at home.

The zeal for economy in 1926 imposed heavy cuts on Tommy's pay, reducing the newly-enlisted man's money from 19s. 3d. to 14s. weekly.

The recruiting sergeant will not make much headway if this is all he has to offer.

And what are the prospects of those who do enlist on these terms? The only additions to the impoverished wages offered consist of "proficiency pay."

That is, after six or eight months' training, the recruit receives 3d. extra a day if pronounced "educationally proficient," with a further 3d. a day at the end of twelve months if he is then proficient in the full military sense.

In plain terms, the maximum earnings of a fully-trained and efficient private soldier, based on the War Office's own estimate regarding the value of his food and clothing, equal £2 0s. 6d. a week.

Even skilled mechanics and tradesmen fare little better when they enlist, though they are expected to give the Army the full benefit of their specialised knowledge and attainments.

Electricians, photographers, and dental mechanics receive £2 5s. a week; riveters, tailors, saddlers, bakers, butchers, £2 2s.; locomotive firemen, searchlight operators and switchboard attendants, £2.

In an effort to suggest that the ordinary recruit has certain advantages, even though his wages are miserably inadequate in comparison with those of unskilled labour in civil life, the War Office talks glibly of "vocational training."

The theory is that young soldiers have the opportunity of learning some trade that they can take up on their return to civil life. But it is not clearly enough stated that recruits availing themselves of this opportunity must pay for the special courses of instruction out of their own meagre earnings.

The cost varies with the circumstances, but in no case does the Army bear the brunt. Nor is the system adequate or effective in other ways. Indeed, this branch of Army administration demands very vigorous overhaul.

*Prospective Recruit to Recruiting Sergeant Shaw: "Make the King's shilling five bob, guv'nor!"*

## WHAT'S WRONG WITH The Army?

Theoretically, the Army encourages soldiers to marry, believing with Mr. Kipling that "single men in barracks don't grow to plaster saints."

In practice there are almost insuperable difficulties. Up to the age of twenty-six the private soldier must maintain wife and family, if any, out of his 14s. a week.

If over that age, the soldier is "advised" not to marry till there is a vacancy "on the strength"—that is, in the married quarters of his regiment.

But this accommodation is nearly always miserably below the requirements of married soldiers.

For example, among married men in the Household Cavalry, 7 per cent. only are housed in barracks; in the Foot Guards 3 per cent. is the figure; in the Infantry of the Line, 3½ per cent.

A soldier who marries "off the strength" is compelled to maintain a separate home, in consideration of which he receives a wife's allowance of 7s. weekly.

For the first child he draws 6s.; for the second 4s.; for the third 2s.; for the fourth 1s. 6d.; and for the fifth 6d.—a tactful hint, no doubt, that it is time to stop!

The utmost a private soldier can hope to earn by diligent attention to his martial and marital duties is £3 1s. 6d.

Of course, the young recruit who enlists at eighteen would hardly expect to marry at once; but as he settles down to the Service and grows into manhood he has every right to enter the married state if he chooses.

And he has every right to expect conditions of service that will enable him to marry in comfort.

THESE are all factors which the Army Council ought to take into consideration, and which it will have to take into consideration ultimately if it wishes to maintain the recruiting standard.

The men of our Army are the best behaved in the world—India and China in their recent trouble know how true this is. The forbearance and chivalry of the men of all units amounts to something very precious.

All they demand is a square deal; and if we have to maintain an Army, it is up to us to see that they get it.

# MISSING F

*"All attempts to establish the identity of the victim of the blazing car mystery have failed"*

MISSING! Few words in the language are so constantly associated with pathos, tragedy and human drama.

Scarcely a day passes without its dread significance being borne in upon some home, though for the public it has meaning only when some sensational case gains widespread mention in the Press.

There is ample evidence of this at the moment.

All attempts to establish the identity of the victim of the blazing car mystery have failed, and this, together with the dramatic disappearance of Mrs. Hearn, with that of Mr. Reginald Arthur Lee, the British Vice-Consul at Marseilles, is a disquieting reminder of the sensational manner in which people can vanish from mortal ken, never to be heard of again.

But there are countless disappearances of which little or nothing is said in the newspapers, and of which the public seldom hears.

Statistics show that the number of missing people each week in this country rarely falls below 2,000.

It is one of the most difficult problems we have to face.

## *Vast problem*

At present, unless there is some evidence of foul play, all the police are called upon to do is to circulate a description of the missing person and await developments.

Yet, so vast is the problem, that it would require far more attention than the police could afford to give if each reported disappearance had to be fully investigated.

Many of the lost ones return to their homes after varying intervals, but there are others who are never heard of again and whose cases go to swell the number of unsolved mysteries.

Not only in London, but in the provincial towns as well, the numbers of the legion of the lost are steadily increasing, and over 900 girls under the age of twenty-one were recently reported missing in the Metropolitan Police district alone.

Of this number all except fifty odd have been accounted for.

But—what has become of that fifty? And multiply that number by those who are missing throughout the country, including members of both sexes, and you get some idea of the problem.

Everyone will recall the case of Gladys Pryce, the young Woodford Sunday-school teacher, who disappeared in 1922.

Every phase of this mystery is as impenetrable to-day as it was eight years ago. No one can say why this girl vanished or what was her fate.

Then there is the case of Miss Florence Ethel Appleyard, a wealthy and elderly eccentric, who also vanished eight years ago.

She owned two "mystery houses" in Bath, one of which, "The Firs," had been allowed to fall into ruin.

## *Probably killed*

She was in the habit of visiting this dwelling late at night, returning to her regular home in the small hours of the morning. No one knew why.

Then she vanished, leaving her solicitors, bankers and a relative who lived in the neighbourhood in complete ignorance of her movements.

All attempts to trace her have failed.

There is Mamie Stuart, who left her Sunderland home in 1919, announcing that she was going to join her husband in Swansea.

She was never seen again, though some of her effects were found in a man's bag which had been left at a Swansea Hotel.

Four years later a rumour came that Mamie Stuart had been seen in Karachi by a ship's officer who knew her; but this was never confirmed.

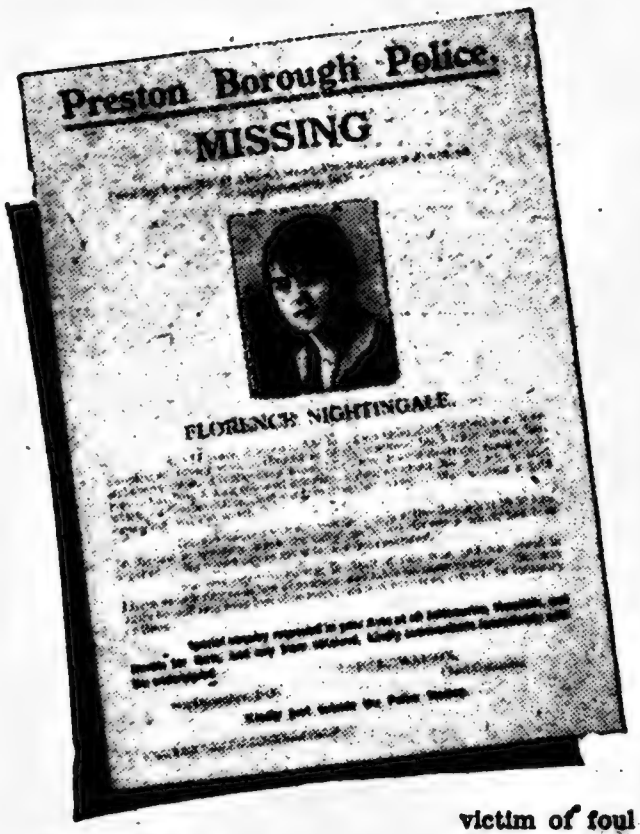
Of an even more sensational nature was the disappearance of Mrs. Wilfred Bois MacLaren.

Though an oft - convicted criminal, she blossomed forth in Society, captivated numerous titled people with her charm, and even obtained the coveted honour of becoming a member of the Royal Yacht Squadron.

Then, one day, after having again seen the inside of a prison-cell, she travelled by boat from London and put up at the Ferry Inn, Roseneath, where she had frequently stayed.

## *Death telegram*

She intimated that her husband would be joining her, and, going to the post-office, despatched postal-orders to a Scottish and English newspaper to pay for her death notice.




*Florence Nightingale—classic name on a typical missing notice*

Next morning her room was empty, though the bed had obviously been slept in. Since then—nothing.

A year ago a prosperous London solicitor, Mr. David M. Phillips, left to keep a business appointment in Paris. Though he was known to have disembarked at a French port, his subsequent movements were lost, and he has never been heard of since.

But let us pass on to some lesser known cases which have not been attended by sensational publicity.

A young man named Jack Lee left his home in Hollingsworth Road, Littleborough, Lancashire, on August 15, to meet someone locally. He has not been seen since.

## *The two clerks*

Police inquiries, advertisements, letters to relatives and friends from the grief-stricken parents have all proved useless. His fate is unknown.

Mystery also surrounds the fate of two young City clerks, inseparable friends, named Jack Edmunds and Edward White.

They vanished in the summer of this year, and though police inquiries have established the fact that both had neglected their work for the night-life of London's West End and had been in bad company, they could not be found.

One of the most puzzling cases is that of Amy Ibbotson, whose portrait we publish exclusively here.

She has been missing from her happy home at Darfield, Barnsley, Yorkshire, for five years.

She was known as a quiet, reserved and most attractive girl, with brown hair and blue eyes.

During the days preceding her disappearance she seemed lighthearted and happy, and her laughter and bright demeanour were a joy to the home.

Then, one evening, she went out, dressed in her best clothes, and — vanished. An uninterrupted search has been made for her ever since. She was only nineteen when she disappeared.

She was a girl who loved her parents, and the fact that no communication has ever been received from her lends weight to the theory that she was the victim of foul play. But not even the remotest clue has ever been discovered.

At about the same time, another girl, Ida Timperley, who resided happily with her parents at Coronation Street, Salford, joined the legion of the lost. She was in her twentieth year.

She had obtained an engagement in the chorus at a theatre in the Midlands, and had later gone on tour with a revue to South Wales.

From the moment of her departure all trace of her was lost. Who

*Where is Koutepoff?*

# EOPLE—Startling List

## Queer Stories of the Legion of the Lost

*A gallery of mysteries: Reginald Arthur Lee, Mrs. Hearn, Mamie Stewart, and Miss Ibbotson*

*Joseph Wilberforce Martin*

*Brilliant—a meteor—Victor Grayson*
*Left by train and vanished*

can say what her fate has been? Men and women of all ages and of every station figure in the amazing list of lost people.

Until recently London Society was interested in a suave figure of an apparently wealthy nobleman of Russian origin, who stayed at the most fashionable hotels, and who had entry to the most exclusive sets.

Although he was reticent about his business affairs, he was believed to be a man of some importance in diplomatic circles.

Then, without the slightest warning, he disappeared from London, leaving no word behind him.

A special investigation by Scotland Yard detectives proved conclusively that the count had not left the country, but it was impossible to find any clue to his whereabouts.

Until a few weeks ago there lived in England a Russian named Alexis Semuschin.

He disappeared from his apartments in Hull one day without a word of warning, and the local police have found no trace of him.

At the beginning of this year came the disappearance of General Koutepof, the "White" Russian leader in Paris.

The general belief was that he had paid the penalty of his past activity against the Soviets, and had been kidnapped by their emissaries.

One of his most trusted chauffeurs was afterwards found dead in a public lavatory in Warsaw, and again it was suggested that he was a victim of the Ogpu.

### *Mutilated body*

Equally inexplicable is the disappearance of a newly-married man named Lowthian, who has been missing from his home in Gore Street, Liverpool, since last Christmas.

His name was mentioned recently with that of two other missing men—George Frederick Harness and a man whose name was unknown—at an inquest on a headless and mutilated body that had been taken from the Gladstone Dock, Liverpool.

These three men were listed as missing locally, and the tense drama in the coroner's court can be imagined, for it was felt that the clue to at least one of three mysteries was at hand.

But identification was impossible.

The coroner had to return a verdict that the body was that of some unknown man, and there is something poignant about his comment: "Large numbers of missing people are never found."

It is a tragic and limitless problem. Countless cases could be cited—all veiled in the same inscrutable mystery.

A few weeks ago Mr. N. A. Harvey, a young London builder, set out in his car for Brighton. His car was found abandoned, and next day his clothing was discovered near by.

From that time nothing has been heard of him.

Another baffling case is that of Benjamin Davis, a colliery fireman, who, in the course of his daily work, went down the Fishley Pit, near Walsall.

Two fellow-colliers saw him at the bottom of the shaft, but he was not seen again, and for a week a hundred men searched the workings in vain. No one can say how he vanished.

Last year a sixteen-year-old named Molly Phillips, who was employed at a Devon farm, went out one day, saying she would be back in an hour or two.

She has never returned to this day, and though the moors were most carefully scoured at the time of her disappearance, not the slightest clue was found.

Most parents of missing children live on for years in the hope that their dear ones will one day return.

A mother in Salisbury still seeks in vain for tidings of her daughter who vanished ten years ago after staying in a flat in North-West London.

Every report of unknown persons found—even where they have committed suicide—is eagerly scanned by her; but the years pass and the mystery is no nearer solution.

Many such mysteries go back even further.

### *Still inquiring*

Frank Laycock Fordham, of Upper Spring Road, Sheffield, has been lost to relatives and friends since he disappeared in mysterious circumstances a year or two before the war.

Yet only a few months ago solicitors were making renewed efforts to solve the mystery.

Joseph Wilberforce Martin, a wealthy man who dined at the Royal Automobile Club in April, 1913, with two friends, stated that he had booked his passage on board a boat which was sailing next day, but he was not on board when the vessel finally sailed.

All efforts to trace him were unavailing, but just recently there appeared in the Press a notice asking for news of the missing man, as he was heir to a fortune of £200,000.

And who will forget the dramatic entrance of Victor Grayson into politics as a fiery young Socialist, when he became M.P. for Colne Valley?

His was a meteoric career, for he was twice suspended during his short Parliamentary experience, and then—disappeared.

So far as is known, he was last seen in Liverpool about twelve years ago. He left by train for Hull, since when nothing more has been heard of him.

In 1926 the following extract was reported as being contained in the will of Sir Thomas Bernard Pink, who directed that a life annuity of £750 should only become payable on the personal application of his son, "as I have lost all trace of him since 1914."

### *Who knows where?*

This son had left England for a pleasure-trip to Canada in that year, and despite all attempts on the part of the family to trace him, he vanished completely.

One of the many cases at present engaging the attention of anxious searchers is that of Mr. J. H. Watson, ex-Chief Constable of Bristol.

He has been missing since he visited a South Coast town about three months ago; and a reward for tidings of him remains unclaimed.

One could go on piling up amazing stories of this legion of the lost, for day after day in the newspapers throughout the country pathetic appeals from relatives of missing people are to be found, but sufficient has been said to show how easy it is for people to disappear without leaving any trace.

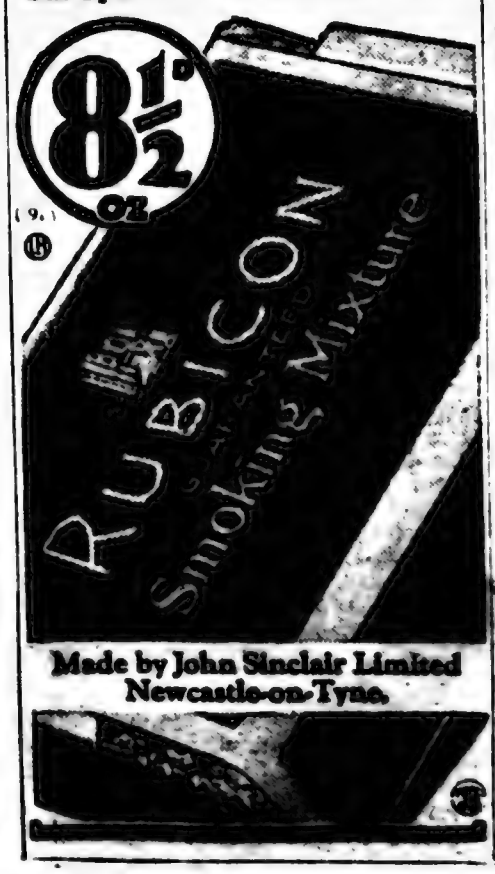
There is little doubt that a very high percentage of disappearances are deliberately staged by people who, for some reason or other, wish to cut old ties and start life all over again in some new setting.

**Do Sailors smoke scented Tobacco? NO!**

. . . not likely. They take to "straight" leaf because they can obtain it so readily and stick to it for the reason that once a man knows *natural* tobacco he has no use for the perfumed variety.

Scented and flavoured tobaccos are usually made from harsh, crude leaf. They mostly *need* the doctoring and perfuming they get, to cover up their bite and tang—but even then, in taste, aroma and satisfaction, they cannot stand comparison with a tobacco made from sound *natural* leaf.

RUBICON MIXTURE is an absolutely pure, "undoctored" Tobacco—made from leaf of a character and quality which need no camouflage. Its clean, wholesome smell and rich, mellow flavour are *wholly and entirely natural*. Try an ounce, it costs but 8½d.




Made by John Sinclair Limited Newcastle-on-Tyne.


# The Man who Feared Nothing

HOW completely the significance of two apparently independent halves, each admitting of simple explanation, may alter when something occurs to unite them into the whole has always struck me as the most trenchant argument against dogma that is to be found.

The chance introduction of some new factor, a swift, unexpected view of the other side, and the most ordinary happenings are touched with magic, while the seemingly supernatural are brought back to ignominious earth.

But for such a conjoining, and the fusing of two independent though parallel experiences, each in itself attributable to the tense, emotional stress of the moment, and therefore liable to be dismissed as a mere trick of imagination, I should even now have looked back upon the events of that autumn morning in 1917 as normal incidents of a soldier's life.

* * *

CHANCE had brought us together for the first time since the war, and so it is not surprising that our conversation centred upon the war as we had known it.

I thought of him then as I recall him now—as the most gallant commander I encountered at a time when gallantry itself was a commonplace; and all his protestations that night have done no more than strengthen my belief in his own intrinsic heroism.

In France we swore by him. I still do. And nobody who saw him coaxing us through the desolation that stretched in front of Passchendaele in the autumn of 1917 could ever do otherwise.

Yet it was not until this night, nearly four years later, that I was enabled to gauge, if only slightly, some of those incalculable elements in his character which made him the splendid figure we knew him to be.

For I know too well what he meant when he asserted that he had once stood apart from himself. It sounds strange, to be sure, but men in the stress of battle were apt to behave strangely.

Our talk had swung round to fear. We had been drawing nice distinctions between "cold feet" and "wind up"; and finally we came to that far more insidious enemy of the soldier, the neurosis that springs from nerve-strain.

"Perhaps I'm what you call psychic," he said, and there was that in his voice which held my attention.

LOOKING, I saw that he was staring into the glowing depths of the fire with a smile, half-mocking, half-wistful—just such a smile as we had known of old.

"Maybe I am," he repeated. "All the same I don't think psychology—in that sense—can diagnose the complaint I suffered from out there. As things turned out, you never had time to guess—fortunately."

I waited.

"It started, of course, from the first time I went up the line in France. It became acute that afternoon in front of Arras in April, '17, when a 'five-nine' all but blew the seat out of my breeks.

"And that particular shell disrupted any martial ardour I may have had left as surely as it disrupted the body of that poor devil I lugged into the shelter of the railway-cutting.

"My nerve went that afternoon with a snap—and it never joined up again."

I protested. I had seen him stagger in. He had lost his helmet. Sweat was ploughing furrows in the dust that whitened his face. And across his shoulders, drenching his jacket with blood, lay the broken body of a man.

Bent under the weight, gasping for breath, he had stood for a moment on the brink of the cutting, with the smoke from exploding shells for a background, and then he had slithered to safety.

I reminded him, but he silenced me with a gesture.

"Oh, yes! I know what you and everyone else thought. But that only made it worse. I had to go on as if nothing had happened.

"I had to keep on simulating, making out I didn't care a hang, when all the while I was scared stiff at the bare idea of poking my nose outside a dug-out—scared stiff, I tell you, and growing more so. . . .

"Then came Ypres, that Passchendaele show. . . . You remember that night Jerry first used phosgene on us?"

Remember it! Could one ever forget it? Five hours of choking, shrieking fury, of Stygian blackness, gas-filled and thick with shells that beat about us until we knew not where to turn next, but crouched in our scanty, useless cover until the storm should cease or else——

But he had crept away, and afterwards we learned how he had crawled from each miserable mockery of a shelter to the next, dragging out the men who huddled there, propelling them to places where he judged the shelling to be less severe.

TWO shelters had been flattened before he started, and six men killed outright. Seven more were blown up after he had been round, and twenty-one men owed their lives to him that night, on that count alone.

He went on. His voice was impersonal.

"I suppose God knows how I got through till dawn. I don't. . . . You never saw young Jackson till we covered him up. He'd stopped a pack and tried to crawl away, and all he'd done was catch his gas-mask on something and rip it off.

"When we found him he was the colour of a bruise and was tearing the flesh from his throat with his fingers trying to breathe. And there was nothing to be done but watch him do it."

HE remained silent for a time, smoking, staring into the fire.

"Well, you know what happened after that—days and weeks of nightmare for everybody. For me—hell. In less than a month half the men and most of the N.C.O.s were gone, and the newcomers were raw which didn't make things any the easier for me.

"And the hell of it was I knew that you, all of you, were hanging on to me. I was the fairy godmother.

"I was holding the crowd of you

together because you all believed in me, and it's God's truth that there were times when I knew not how I was going to hold myself together, let alone hold you.

"Whisky! If the stuff hadn't made me sick I should have taken to the bottle months before. As it was, the mere fact that I did't made you look up to me the more."

He laughed, quietly, grimly, and tossed his head.

"Then came those orders about crossing the ridge and going into action in the open. I went cold when I read 'em, and from that moment everything I dreaded most seemed to concentrate in their execution.

"Finally the weather itself conspired to get me down. The rains set in. The mud came. Everything was mud, just mud."

And what that had meant to us only the men of Ypres may know. For days we lived in it. It caked our

*Lt.-Com. C. R. Binstead is the author of "Retreat"—acclaimed by critics as one of the most powerful stories of the Great War*

# by C. R. BENSTEAD

Illustrated by Woods

clothes, soaking them so that they were never dry.

We snatched our sleep on it. We ate it with our food. We became inextricably involved in it. And many of us died in it. Wounded men fell into it and were drowned.

"The future," he said, "now appeared to me like a wave—a gigantic wave that was sweeping down upon me, curling over and towering more and more as the interval from the day of those orders lessened. I couldn't sleep then—not even when I had the chance.

"I was dreading with a terror that no inquisition ever produced, the day when I should have to lead you over that damned ridge to be shot down like sitting birds.

"But I might have spared myself, for the day came — and we went. You followed directly behind me—remember?"

He fell silent again, smoking, staring into the fire. And even then I had no inkling of the *denouement* to his story which, uniting with mine, and being complementary to it, was to shatter so completely all my long-accepted interpretations.

I merely thought of the men I had followed so blindly and with such implicit trust; and I saw again in mental vision, with all the stark clarity of the time, that chaotic waste of mud and slime where stretched the absurd ribbon of planks which served us for a road on that day of high adventure.

And there, too, I saw him strolling—aye, strolling — unconcernedly along.

He walked that day as he might have wandered down a country lane, and he swung a bit of wood he had picked up as he might have swung a walking-stick, though ahead of him, astride that corduroy road, lay the raw and gaping wreckage of those who had preceded us—guns, limbers, horses, men, all smashed and swept aside, sacrificed to a time-table.

AND I had followed him, terror clutching to me, threatening to blind me, as all the while I strained to catch the tell-tale swish that should herald the start of our own destruction.

"You know," he went on, "when I saw those poor devils who went first being blown to hell, I knew I'd reached the limit. The wave was about to break. We had to go, but I couldn't move.

"As sure as I'm sitting here now, I couldn't move my legs. My feet weren't cold; they were frozen. I was rooted there, unable to tear my eyes from the shambles in front."

He paused and knocked out his pipe. Then: "I suppose a condemned criminal must feel like that when he first catches sight of the gallows. But at least he's assisted on to it. . . .

***"He staggered in. . . . Across his shoulders, drenching his jacket with blood, lay the broken body of a man"***

There was no one to assist me. It is fortunate, indeed, that I was too frightened even to scream.

"My mouth was dry as the Sahara. My heart was hammering in my throat, choking me. My guts were a void. My backbone was ice. . . . I was done.

"Then it just happened, and it's God's truth I'm telling. I simply parted from myself."

I started forward in my chair. A flash of memory dovetailed my story into his. "You mean ——"

"I simply parted from myself. Some essential bit of me came clean away, and in that bit was every normal faculty and sense I had.

"BEFORE I knew what was happening I was looking on, a spectator, watching myself standing there rooted at the head of that waiting column, and I remember noting with considerable surprise—and no little satisfaction—that I still *looked* ordinary enough."

"Go on," I said, "go on." But he mistook my impatience for unbelief, and replied with a gesture of indifference. Still, he went on.

"What occurred after that seems more like a dream than reality, though God knows it was real enough.

"I remained there throughout it all, apart from myself, ordering myself about—an amused if highly interested spectator of my own movements. And that animated shell which you saw as my body, I saw too."

I sank back in my chair and let him finish. I had heard all I wanted.

"And I ordered it about," he said. "I told it to advance, and it advanced. I commanded it to ape an easy nonchalance, and it started swinging a stick.

"From time to time I put words in its mouth, and it uttered them—and you obeyed. And all the while that essential part was standing aside, watching, quite separate."

That queer, half-wistful, half-mocking smile we had known so well of old was twisting again at his lips. He was, I felt, leading us again over the ridge, and I waited.

THEN, quite suddenly, he exhaled a mighty cloud of smoke. "You were going to say just now——"

I hesitated. "Only that I—well, that day, you know—*I saw you at times—the two of you.*" I drew a deep breath. "That's all."

He looked at me with curious, grateful understanding. "But you put it down to your nerves, I suppose?"

"Yes," I admitted.

"I did, too. Or I've tried to, but somehow . . ."

A silence fell between us. Our separate experiences were now one, and who shall say that the whole is not touched with magic?

**Next Week's True Story**

*A treat for animal-lovers and an eye-opener for those who may entertain prejudices regarding tales of animals. "Old 'Un" is a story about a horse; but human from the first word to the last.*

**"Old 'Un," by BARRY PEROWNE**


**A LONGER Christmas Holiday!**

When the last guest has departed and Christmas is over, JOHN BULL'S Christmas Holiday Annual still keeps the jolly Christmas spirit alive.

Many famous artists and writers still provide a fund of entertainment.

Your Christmas will be a longer one, a jollier one, a happier one, if you take home a copy of JOHN BULL'S Christmas Holiday Annual. 68 pages of merry stories and pictures for sixpence!

. . . . like basking in sunshine to sit by this fire . . . . cosy warmth all round . . . . room the right temperature . . . . so fresh and pleasant too . . . . that's the beauty of the gas fire . . . . radiates the same kind of heat as the sun . . . . can be regulated to give just the warmth you want . . . . and is the only modern fire that properly ventilates a room . . . . gets rid of "used" air and brings in fresh air . . . . no wonder thousands of gas fires are used in hospitals . . . . medical people know their business . . . .

Order your gas fires now. Ask at your gas showrooms. The B.C.G.A., representing the British Gas Industry, is at your service for free information and advice on **modern gas fires — the fires that ventilate.**

**THE FUEL OF THE PRESENT**

**GAS**

**THE FUEL OF THE FUTURE**

THE BRITISH COMMERCIAL GAS ASSOCIATION 28, GROSVENOR GARDENS, LONDON, S.W.1

## "Saved me from pneumonia"

*"SOME years ago I was suffering from bronchitis and congestion of the lungs. Nothing seemed to ease the congestion. Then my chemist recommended I try your Musterole Brand Ointment. After a few applications the congestion disappeared and I enjoyed complete relief from my suffering. As a matter of fact, the doctor told me I had been saved from pneumonia."*
*—G. J., Stafford Road, Wolverhampton.*

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If you have a cold on the chest and it feels tight and congested, spread on the magic, pain-dispelling warmth of this clean, white ointment. That warmth penetrates right down to the congested tissues, loosens, soothes, heals. Thousands of people have obtained immediate relief from dangerous chest colds by using Musterole Brand Mustard Ointment. They are never without it in their homes. Musterole Brand Mustard Ointment will do for you what it has done for others. Your favourite chemist has it. Get a jar today.

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Thos. Christy & Co., 4-12 Old Swan Lane, E.C.4



## Get on Familiar Terms with 'FAMILIAR FRIENDS'

**This week "John Bull" offers over £50 in cash and 100 valuable Consolation Prizes for answering Riddles. No Entrance Fee. All prizes must be won. Don't on any account miss this popular competition. Why not make it a Fireside Game and get all the family to help?**

Full details are given on each page, for which separate prizes are being awarded. Write clearly the Section No., the question printed and the answer submitted. Note closing date, Jan. 10th, 1931. Send in your attempts NOW or as soon as possible. (Only one answer on each postcard, but several postcards can be enclosed in envelope bearing three-halfpenny stamp.)


**See pages 25, 27 & 29**

# TIRED—But Oh, So Happy!

## MEDALS FOR THE YULE BATTALIONS

*"Let us remember them"—the postman, the porter . . .*

*. . . and the seamstress: "She works throughout the night"*

*. . . the shop-assistant . . .*

AN army of toilers has been at work so that we might have a Merry Christmas holiday. They are those for whom the season signifies an intensified struggle, in which every ounce of physical and nervous energy is employed.

For instance, there are those who only stand and wait—upon us. Each year throughout the country thousands of extra hands are taken on for the fortnight—or perhaps only for the week—preceding Christmas.

Yet even this addition to the normal working strength does not render the work much less arduous. The provisions of the Shop Acts are suspended by the Home Office for a period immediately before Christmas.

Formerly this suspension was for a longer period than at present. This year the Home Secretary consented to suspension for only five days.

But it has been a very tough five days for the assistants. For one thing, it deprived them of the customary weekly half-holiday. And, of course, it enabled the shops to remain open until any hour they desired.

Another thing for which shop-workers may be grateful is that the Home Office recommended to traders that they should give their assistants the whole day off, following Boxing Day, or at least a part of that day.

### *Eat—standing*

In Scotland, by the way, the Shop Acts were suspended for eight days. And they don't get Boxing Day off!

During the Christmas shopping rush it is the girls especially who suffer. They work for long hours. Some shops remain open until ten o'clock at night, or even later.

They work anything from twelve to fifteen hours daily for the five-day rush. The shops are crowded and noisy; the air is vitiated. Customary meal intervals are abolished, and they must be content with hurried snacks.

And they do not get any overtime payment, let us remember—except in a few shops where trade-union agreements are in force. In some shops they may get a Christmas box, a ten-shilling note.

The provision-shops, butchers and poultry-mongers are perhaps the hardest places to work in before Christmas.

The workers must start earlier in the morning, when the stuff comes in from the markets; and there is much more cleaning-up to be done.

You can imagine how the shop-assistants feel by Christmas Eve, when at last the shops close. They have nobly earned their Christmas rest and enjoyment, by their hard work and their never-failing patience and courtesy.

And that pretty new frock the wife or daughter bought for the Christmas party?

It was made, perhaps, by workers half-dead from lack of sleep, keeping up their strength with big draughts of black coffee.

Ninety hours' work in less than a week—this sounds incredible, but it is performed by many workers in the smaller dressmaking workshops which successfully evade Trade Board regulations and inspection.

They may have been unemployed for weeks, so one can understand their desire to work all the hours they can in the Christmas season.

You will see notices outside tailoring and dressmakers' shops that "orders may be received up till two days before Christmas." How do they do it?

Let us say you ordered a frock on Monday, to be completed on Wednesday, the day before Christmas.

They'll cut your order then, on Monday evening it will be in the hands of the maker-up — who then works throughout the night and the whole of Tuesday so as to deliver it Wednesday morning.

It is not unusual for these workers to toil continuously throughout the forty-eight hours preceding Christmas Eve, with practically no sleep and with just time to snatch quick meals.

Next Christmas order your dress or your suit a few weeks before the holidays.

Each Christmas it seems impossible that all the parcels can be dealt with in time for the festival. And each year the impossible is accomplished!

### *Joys—for others*

Truckloads of turkeys, towering piles of plum-puddings, hampers, gifts of every kind—they all catch the right trains, they all get to their recipients in time, thanks to the strenuous labour of the railway porters, checkers, clerks, supervisors and vanmen.

Staffs are greatly increased to deal with the immensely swollen traffic.

There's a good deal of overtime, too, worked by everyone, and the rush gets more and more strenuous right up till the morning of the 25th.

Everyone is tired out, perspiring plenteously, however cold it may be; but there is no really bad humour.

When it's all over, "Merry Christmas!" the exhausted railway lads cry to each other; and "That's finished for another twelve months, thank the Lord!" they cry.

The postal workers have had a tougher time than ever this year. The good old eight-hour day was knocked out completely.

A charming incident revealed the spirit of the postal workers, when a pathetic postcard came through the sorting department of a certain city.

A little girl had written to Santa Claus, telling how poor her father and mother were, and asking for gifts for her, her brothers and sisters.

The sorters made a collection on the spot, and sent them a splendid Christmas hamper.

Another brave battalion in the army of Christmas workers is that of the carrying companies—the men of Pickfords, Carter Paterson and others. Here, again, extra staffs are needed.

Packages arrive by the thousands at the "bank," at the clearance-house, and have to be sorted, put into "dumps" to await the vans, and then loaded.

The vanmen are out late on Christmas Eve delivering, especially in the outlying sections of the cities. You hear their rat-tat on the doors as late as midnight, or after if they see a light in the window.

### *Hard-worked fairies*

They want to make sure you'll get that knitted jumper from Ma, or the new pipe from Pa, in time for Christmas Day. It may be raining, snowing or thick with fog, but they're at it until every parcel is delivered.

And then the long drive back to the depot. They sleep pretty late on Christmas morning, and who can blame them?

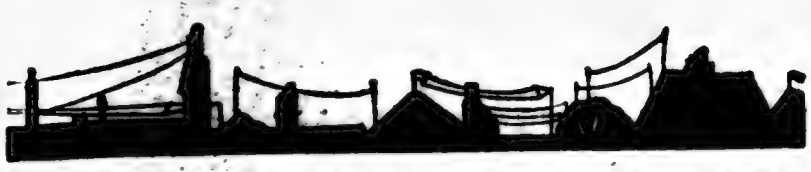
Stage-hands put in extra time behind the scenes, preparing properties, lights and scenery for new special productions.

Pantomime girls have been rehearsing for a fortnight—and rehearsing without pay, in most cases, for an engagement in the chorus at £2 10s to £3 a week.

For all these Christmas Day is often a day of rest for taut nerves and wearied muscles. But they don't mind; they've done their jobs, and done them well.

Let us remember them with gratitude.

# A Merry Christmas

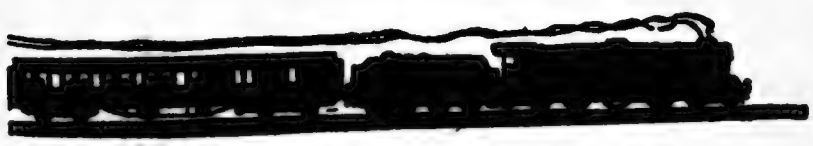


AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

TO ALL THOSE WHO IN WORK

IN PLEASURE AND ADVENTURE

PIN THEIR FAITH TO THE



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# Exide

Exide Batteries, Clifton Junction, near Manchester

Branches at London, Manchester, Birmingham, Bristol and Glasgow

# Greatest Coupon Sensation!

**FREE**

FOR ONLY

**495**

**COUPONS**

To Every Smoker of

**NAVY CLUB** Virginia **CIGARETTES**

## Nothing to Pay

ALL ROYALTIES INCLUDED

*Stand not included, but is necessary, but may be bought if desired for 12/6.*

## HIGHLY SELECTIVE FULL-SIZE SET (British Made)

## 3 VALVE DENNIS SUPER PORTABLE

### SPECIFICATION:

Including 3 Valves and Loudspeaker, Solid Oak Cabinet of artistic design and craftsmanship. The slow-motion dial makes tuning in delightfully simple. A child can operate it.

Everything, including Frame Aerial, in this FULL-SIZE Set completely built in. NO outside wires, NO Aerial, NO Earth, NO trouble.

**AMAZING PERFORMANCE BRITISH AND FOREIGN STATIONS GUARANTEED WITH POWERFUL VOLUME.**

### HOW THIS OFFER IS POSSIBLE.

The makers of the Dennis Super 3 Valve Set and the component parts and the makers of the Permos Batteries and Permos Accumulators, together with ourselves contribute towards the cost of this expensive offer in order to obtain a world-wide advertisement and distribution for their products and our Navy Club Cigarettes. PERMOS Batteries are RECOMMENDED for this SET.

### *Higher Quality—Better than Ever.*

Nothing has been sacrificed in the quality or size of Navy Club Cigarettes On the contrary, following the reduction of the cost of Tobacco, the finest Virginia Tobacco procurable is now being used in Navy Club, and consequently the smoker obtains a 10 for 10d. Cigarette at 10 for 6d. in Navy Club.

### A FEW of the STATIONS RECEIVED with THIS SET

*LON. REGIONAL.*
*LON. NATIONAL.*
*MIDLAND.*
*HUIZEN.*
*BERLIN.*
*KALUNDBORG.*
*DAVENTRY.*
*EIFFEL TOWER.*
*RADIO PARIS.*
*HILVERSUM.*
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*VIENNA.*
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*PRAGUE.*
*LANGENBERG.*

**DO NOT MISS THIS GOLDEN ONCE IN A TIME OPPORTUNITY**

***Ask your tobacconist for your first packet of***

FABIAN'S

## Navy Club VIRGINIA CIGARETTES

**10 for 6D.** THREE QUALITIES Medium | Mild | Very Mild **20 for 1/-**

ONLY A LIMITED NUMBER OF SETS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED.

**TO GET SET AT ONCE BEFORE COLLECTING COUPONS.**

If you want your Set at once, before collecting coupons send a deposit of 5 gns., which will be returned to you when you send the coupons later. If you are not delighted and charmed, deposit will be refunded if Set is returned C.P. within 3 days.

**REGISTER NOW AS A COLLECTOR.**

In order to assist us in our arrangements with the makers to have all the Sets ready when our friends have collected the necessary coupons we recommend every smoker to register as a Navy Club collector.

**USE THIS FORM**

***L. & J. FABIAN (Dept. C.B.C. 36), 74, NEW BOND ST., LONDON, W.1***

Please send me your 10 Gn. Dennis Super 3-Valve Portable Set for which I enclose a deposit of 5 Gns. on the understanding that you will return the whole of this sum when I send my coupons later. Also send me ***25 FREE BONUS COUPONS.***

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

TOWN .....

COUNTY .....

**FREE COUPON**

**25 BONUS COUPONS, Cash Value 3/4**

***L. & J. FABIAN (Dept. C.B.36), 74, NEW BOND ST., LONDON, W.1***

Please send descriptive leaflet of the "Dennis" 3-Valve Super Set and Registration Form with your undertaking to reserve a Set for me if I return the form to you indicating my decision to become a collector of Navy Club coupons. Also send me ***25 FREE BONUS COUPONS.***

I enclose one empty Navy Club carton.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

TOWN .....

COUNTY .....

# Make it *this way*

SCHOOLBOY PUDDING.

*(Very similar to Christmas Pudding)*

Your boy can make it himself. Take a 1 lb. jar of Robertson's Mincemeat, mix with three ounces of self-raising flour, place in a basin, steam or boil for 3 hours. This will make a delicious and nourishing pudding. Just the thing for growing boys and girls. Remember—*it must be* ROBERTSON'S MINCEMEAT ("Golden Shred" Brand) This contains the exact proportion of each ingredient to make a successful pudding.

**Robertson's Mincemeat**

GOLDEN SHRED BRAND

M.1.


If there is one thing in which we can safely trust our forefathers' example it is in the making of a merry Xmas. To-day we may be able to turn on the gramophone or wireless for an added touch of gaiety, but the main essentials remain the same—the bird, the pudding, crackers, a blazing fire and Stone's Ginger Wine. People would as soon think of forgetting the last as the first. They are the big five for a good time. The crackling fire plays a jolly accompaniment to the bird and the pudding, and the tingling warmth of Stone's Ginger Wine rounds off the fun with the crackers. So come along everybody, raise glasses and tip it, I risk it Drain it to the toast that we may enjoy many more such Christmases to come.


**Parents'**

**doubts and fears**

Those who have little faith in the value of education as an avenue to success in life and in business will find much to dispel their fears and doubts in

**On Leaving School**

that remarkable book by

**Lord Wakefield of Hyde, C.B.E., LL.D.**

**12th Edition**

**3/6 net**

Published by Hodder & Stoughton

**CATARRH**

To sufferers from this distressing complaint Vapo-Cresolene is the long-sought remedy Its soothing antiseptic vapour relieves the congested areas in nose, throat and chest, quickly dispersing the attack. No medicine to take. For 50 years Vapo-Cresolene has been the drugless remedy for catarrh. Disinfects the room and prevents spread of infection. Sold by all chemists.

Vapo-Cresolene

Remedial Inhalant for 50 years

*WRITE FOR BOOKLET No. 21.*

ALLEN & HANBURYS LTD., Lombard St., London, E.C.3


*Thrills of the game for big men—Mr. R. H. Gillespie, Mr. A. E. Abrahams and Mr. C. B. Cochran*

# The Great STAGE GAMBLE

by Willson Disher

GAMBLING is the life and soul of the theatre. Every year anything up to half a million is lost in show-business.

Some gamesters put the Turf first, others the Stock Exchange. Both sorts know, in their heart of hearts, that there are bigger thrills in the finances of the stage.

Theatreland resembles a vast tapis of roulette, with the wheel revolving at one end, while the big men of the theatre sit around.

The minimum stake is £10,000, and an ever-changing crowd of odd frequenters of the table is constantly risking this amount, losing it nine times out of ten, regaining it occasionally, and making a large fortune once in a while.

Among the kings and gamesters of the theatre world there are real showmen, strong personalities who started life behind the footlights and mastered all the branches of stagecraft before they ever studied finance.

At their head, possessing all the finest qualities of the type, is Charles B. Cochran; he is too well known to the public to need any introduction.

There are, in sharp contrast to these, the buyers of theatres who make fortunes out of leases and rents; of these Sir Walter Gibbons is the one the public knows best.

Among theatrical folk Sir Walter seems like a fish out of water.

His work consists of forming companies, purchasing sites, erecting theatres or taking over buildings put up by others. A keen business man of the best type is Sir Walter.

## *Talks to a spirit*

But when the toil of the long day is over, he is a changed man.

There is no more ardent spiritualist in the land. He holds long conversations with the soul of Grimaldi, that famous clown, who died a hundred years ago.

By night he listens to prophetic utterances; by day he controls Leicester Square Theatre.

Though not "born in the business," Sir Oswald Stoll has taken part in it from a very early age.

He was brought from Melbourne as a boy. His mother's second marriage was to a music-hall manager.

On her husband's death she and young Stoll ran the old Parthenon at Liverpool, where the boy came in daily contact with all the idols of the halls.

Sir Oswald grew up among them, and when the time came he was an unerring judge of talent.

He helped to launch Moss Empires, Ltd., before seceding in order to form the Stoll Circuit. He specialises in making white elephants pay.

A man of facts and figures is Richard Henry Gillespie, the Northumbrian, who was managing director of Moss Empires from the start.

## *Millionaire's sideline*

Another is Sir Alfred Butt, who was an accountant at Harrod's Stores before becoming secretary and then manager of the Palace.

At one time Sir Alfred controlled more West End theatres than any other manager.

In recent years he has been principally concerned with Drury Lane, —a theatre name known all over the civilised world.

There also is Solly Joel, a strange figure in theatreland.

Though the public never thinks of Joel as a showman, his instincts for show business are sound.

He is not to be spoken of in the same breath as the intruders who rush in where managers fear to tread—and are soon shot out.

The public hears of the bankrupts—no reminder of Jimmy White is needed.

Millionaires may come and go, but few believers in spectacular play can keep even courtesy places at this roulette-table.

Most of those who have stayed there for twenty years or more have perfected a safe and steady system.

Lady Wyndham and her son, Bronson Albery, have controlled the New, Wyndham's, and the Criterion through slumps as well as booms.

Gilbert Miller is more picturesque. I remember him as a jolly youth in a straw-hat when he first arrived in London with the rights of "Daddy Long-Legs."

## *Smaller gambles*

In a year he had the full-fledged manner and deportment of a leading manager. He has kept his prominent position in the West End, and on Broadway as well, ever since.

Nor must Sir Barry Jackson and Alec Rea be overlooked. They are, in the best sense of the word, amateurs. Both were born and bred to commerce.

One founded the Birmingham Repertory Theatre, and the other the Liverpool Repertory Theatre, before coming to London.

They have been willing to lose money for the sake of their ideals, and of late Sir Barry has demonstrated that ideals can be made to pay.

They played according to a system which others already are following. That system has brought into existence the firm which Maurice Browne established on the profits of "Journey's End."

It will bring Walter Hackett into greater prominence before long, for he is not the type to rest content with the Whitehall as his only theatre.

Like Edgar Wallace, he is reviving Shakespeare's tradition of the author as manager.

Few people give a second glance at one of the most interesting of the gamesters — A. E. Abrahams.

Even in his own theatres few people recognise this quiet-voiced, middle-aged man—who seldom says more than an attentive "How do you do?"—as one of the wealthiest possessors of theatrical bricks and mortar in the world.

Other managers come and go, or at least have their setbacks to offset their successes, but A. E. Abrahams continues unfalteringly.

Who knows where his ambition ends?

While others, tempted by the brilliant, alluring chances of the game, have risked their money in backing play, musical comedy or revue, A. E. Abrahams has sat behind a huge roll-top desk in his bare offices—behind a huge sky-sign for the talkies—in Shaftesbury Avenue, and smiled his queer half-smile.

## *A quick coup*

Take the Aldwych as a case in point. He owns the freehold, and therefore could do what he liked.

But what has happened? When Tom Walls and his partners were trying to rent a second theatre for "Tons of Money," forced to leave the Shaftesbury at the height of its success, they were refused by many managers who demanded "sharing terms or nothing."

A. E. Abrahams promptly closed with such promising tenants, and has been drawing £400 a week ever since without fail.

He began with an engagement at the Borough Theatre, Stratford, to make the show known.

Afterwards he became his employer's son-in-law. Later again, he bought street sites, his staff consisting of one man with a hand-cart.

## *Fortunes made—and lost*

But whereas this was unknown to the clients of the Borough Billposting Company, they found that his opportunities for displaying their advertisements were unrivalled.

When he sold out the business was worth over £200,000.

Thus fortunes are made. Quiet, steady play has its rewards—and its failures also. But the theatre's existence depends on the showman.

Without such genius as Cochran possesses, it would die and leave the owners of bricks and mortar with worthless property on their hands.

But there are others—tragic people who have gambled and gone down.

SECTION 1.

# 'FAMILIAR FRIENDS'

FIRST PRIZE £10

SEVEN PRIZES OF £1 1s. 0d. EACH

AT the foot of each advertisement below is a riddle. We will give a prize of £1 1s. 0d. for the best answer received in each case (seven in all) and in addition a prize of £10 for the brightest answer received in the whole of this section (Section 1). RULES:—Postcards only. Write clearly your name and address, giving number of advertisement and question printed and the answer submitted. Forward as many postcards as you like. You may choose any of the riddles. Only one answer allowed on each postcard. Editor's decision to be final. Closing date, January 10th, 1931. Address: "Familiar Friends," Section 1, JOHN BULL, 57, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

**All prizes, £10 First, seven of £1 : 1 : 0 each and a number of handsome Consolation Prizes, MUST BE WON!**

The prizes will be awarded for the best answers received to riddles on this page. You can select any number of riddles. There is no entrance fee and no limit to the number of entries. Aptness and originality will count. Do not write more than one Riddle and Answer on each postcard you submit for the many prizes offered on this page. If you are sending several postcards, forward them together in envelope bearing three-halfpenny stamp, addressed as above.

**In addition to the Cash Prizes, a number of Special Prizes will be awarded to replies from this page.**

Afrikander solves *every* pipe-smoker's problem. It makes smooth going of his smoking — with its soothing mellowness, its fine flavour and downright dependability

*"It saves and satisfies."*

**Afrikander MIXTURE**

7½d. an oz.

*Flake or Shag*

No. 1. *Why is AFRIKANDER Tobacco like a good story?*

**Health by the Cupful!**

**OXO**

**A Protective Food**

No. 2. *Why is Oxo like Summer?*

Look for the blue label your guarantee of perfectly ripened fruit

BLUE LABEL FYFFES BRAND BANANAS

ELDERS AND FYFFES, LTD.

No. 3. *Why are Fyffes' Bananas like a Derby Winner?*

Make your puddings with

**CURRANTS**

*The most delicious and cheapest of all dried fruits!*

CURRANTS are richer in flavour and food value than any other dried fruit. Plenty of currants used in your cakes and puddings makes them richer-looking, more tempting, and many times more nourishing.

**CURRANTS**

The cheapest of all dried fruit

No. 4. *Why are Currants like a Motor Car?*

A Favourite of every Connoisseur

For nearly 100 years Grant's Morella Cherry Brandy has maintained the reputation of being the most delicious liqueur the world can produce.

**Welcome Always—Keep it Handy!**

**GRANT'S MORELLA CHERRY BRANDY**

Sweet or Dry

Also Grant's Sloe Gin & Ginger Brandy

No. 5. *What is the difference between Grant's Morella Cherry Brandy and a Postage Stamp?*

THIS sign stands for the best Beef Suet that one can buy—"Atora" is quite an institution now! And it's as good as it's popular! Always keep a packet of "Atora" in the larder. It's so handy for making light nourishing puddings and dumplings and as a creamy improvement in milk puddings.

No. 6. *What is the difference between "Atora" and a hurricane?*

"Old Folks at Home."

*"Old Familiar Faces, Dear Familiar Faces,*
*Friends are few, but when they're true,*
*They're all the World to me."*

HOW APTLY THE WORDS OF THIS OLD SONG APPLY TO

**Mazawattee Tea**

WHICH BRINGS SUCH HAPPY MEMORIES OF "THE OLD FOLKS AT HOME."

No. 7. *What is the difference between Mazawattee Tea and a money box?*

ENTER THIS FREE COMPETITION!

More Riddles and More Prizes on pages 27 and 29.

More Riddles and More Prizes on pages 27 and 29.

# Record Sum of £1,100 Won!

## Result of "John Bull's" Cross-word Competition No. 93.

*In the above Competition solutions containing one error only were received from the following two competitors, who share the £1,000 offered. To each of them, subject to the conditions of the contest, a cheque for £500 will be despatched:—*

**Miss Agnes Simpson, 84, North Street, Glasgow.**

**Mr. A. Clasper, 2, Barnard Street, Thornaby.**

*Solutions containing two errors only were received from the following 40 competitors, who share the Second Prize of £100, each receiving £2 10s. 0d.*

Booth, Mrs. J., 66, Pilling Lane, Chorley, Lancs.; Camps, H., 25, Blackwood Rd., Stacksteads; Cantherley, R., Heasandford House, Burnley, Lancs.; Clark, Mrs. G., Star House, Kemnay, Aberdeen; Clarke, W., 4, St Silas St., St. Philips Marsh, Bristol; Cummings, J., 124, Newton St., Millom, Cumberland; Dale, G., 125, Basford Rd., Basford, Stoke-on-Trent; Finch, Mrs., Chester Rd., Whitchurch, Salop; Foot, P. C., 6, Elizabeth Terrace, Ilham, S.E.9; Fox, Mrs. H., 12/3, Edward St., Sheffield; Gibb, W., Oakview, Wishaw; Gleave, A., 54, Clipsley Lane, Haydock, St. Helens, Lancs.; Hay, J., 10, Upper Plymouth Grove, Longsight, M/C; Heywood, Mrs., 13, Anson Rd., Eccles, Manchester; Hobden, A., Southlands House, Cowfold, Sussex; Howe, Mrs. J., 23, Poulton St., Kirkham, Preston, Lancs.; Jardine, M. E., Torville, Ilkley, Yorks; Mason, I. B., 10, Comely Bank Place, Edinburgh; Merrion, E., Rose Cottage, Blackley New Rd., Crumpsall, Manchester; Miles, F. W., 25, Montgomerie Rd., Southsea, Hants; Mullard, S., 1, Brook Cottages, Broughton, Preston, Lancs.; Pape, T., 143, Rouse Rd., Barrow-in-Furness; Parker, C. E., 10, Eastbourne Rd., Copnor, Portsmouth; Parker, Mrs. A., 14, Malt Mill Lane, Blackheath, Nr. B'ham; Pimblett, Miss H., 251, Broad Oak Rd., Parr, St. Helens, Lancs.; Pollard, J., 18, Raleigh St., Stretford, Manchester; Reed, H. E., 20, Seymour Rd., Hornsey, N.8; Rhodes, Mrs. A., 45, Worcester Villas, Hove; Scollin, H. H., 79, Newark Rd., Lincoln; Speak, L., 424, Manchester Rd., Blackrod, Nr. Chorley; Stinchcombe, L. W., Station Master, Llwyngwril, N. Wales; Stirling, W., 1074, Dumbarton Rd., Whiteinch, Glasgow; Stout, F. B., 9, Snowden Av., Flixton, Manchester; Taylor, E., 6, Newburgh Crescent, Warwick; Thompson, M. A., 45, Eden Terrace, Lynemouth, Morpeth; Vallis, E., 191, Tranmere Rd., Tooting, S.W.17; Waterfield, Mrs. A., 210, Cotts, Poolsbrook, Nr. Chesterfield; Watson, Miss C., 6, Yate St., Leigh, Lancs; Whitworth, S., Salem Mount, Oldham; Yates, Miss G., 62, St. Albans Rd., St. Annes-on-Sea.

**Another £600 X-Word appears on Page 32. Try your skill now!**


# HAD TO LEAVE OFF SHAVING

## Irritating Rash on Face. Healed by Cuticura.

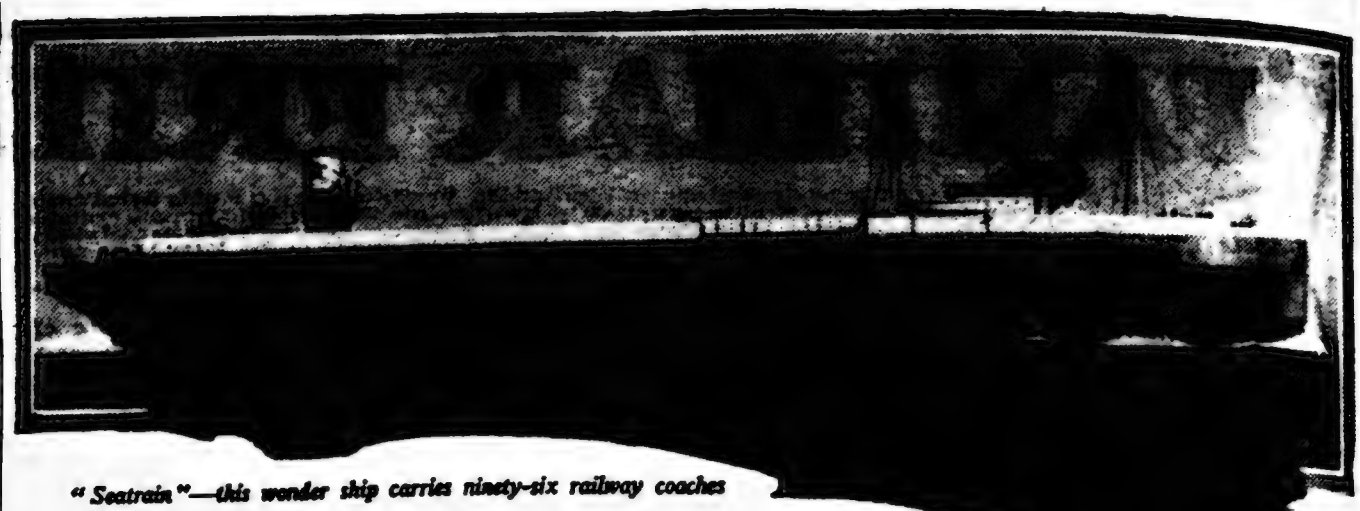
"In the early spring of this year my face broke out in a red rash which was very irritating. When I rubbed it with my fingers water used to come from it. I had to leave off shaving on account of it. The trouble lasted three weeks.

"I read an advertisement for Cuticura Soap and Ointment and sent for a free sample. After the second application the irritation was relieved. I purchased more and after using them a fortnight I was completely healed." (Signed) F. J. Kerr, 21, Wellington Rd., Barnsbury, London, N.7, Eng.

Clear the pores of impurities by daily use of Cuticura Soap, with touches of Cuticura Ointment as needed to soothe and heal.

Soap 1s., Ointment 1s. 2d. and 2s. 6d., Talcum 1s. 3d. Sold throughout the world. Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props., Malden, Mass., U.S.A.

Cuticura Shaving Cream 1s. 6d. a tube.

*"Seatrain"—this wonder ship carries ninety-six railway coaches*

# OUR *Wonderful* BOXES *of* TRICKS

**WHEN there is a difficult engineering feat to be done the world comes to Britain—as these amazing performances of 1930 will show.**

**We are the pioneers of queer craft carrying anything from bananas to churches.**

**Six months ago an order was placed by a British-Peruvian company for a twin-screw passenger and cargo steamer for service on Lake Titicaca, 12,000 ft. above sea-level and 250 miles from the coast.**

**Each portion of the hull, deck-houses, boilers, engines, winches, masts and derricks was not to exceed a limited weight which could be handled by men and loaded into a railway truck.**

**The vessel was built, launched and tested to the satisfaction of the owners. Then she was taken back to the building yard, dismantled, marked, packed in cases, and shipped to South America.**

**Her keel was not laid before June 18, 1930, yet during the first week in December she was loaded into the holds of the motor-ship *La Paz* for Mollendo.**

**The construction of the twin-screw passenger steamer *Ollanta* was a gigantic jig-saw puzzle.**

**Miles of piping had to be so made that it could be pieced together in convenient lengths, plates and deck-houses made in sections like packs of cards, each bearing a number, while the bunks, washstands and cabin fittings had to be dovetailed like toy houses. Masts and funnel were made telescopic.**

## *What a lift!*

**A slipway is being built at Puno, on the shores of the Andean lake, where the *Ollanta* will be reconstructed by British workers and re-launched for service.**

**One of the most remarkable vessels in the world is the Tyne-built *Belpamela*, on which was loaded a light-ship, complete with mast and lantern, to be taken to Basra, in the Persian Gulf.**

**To avoid the breakage of mast and lantern, the *Belpamela* was listed over until the 115-ton vessel was hoisted aboard.**

**There is a romance of engineering behind the *Belpamela*, for she is only one of a fleet of world's champion heavyweight-lifters, built by Armstrong Whitworth and Co., for a Norwegian shipmaster, Captain Christian Smith.**

**The Norwegian skipper hit upon the plan of building a vessel which could receive or discharge a cargo of locomotives with the ship's own gear.**

**His success, helped by British engineering, was so phenomenal that to-day there is a fleet of half a dozen, built on the Tyne, but flying the flag of Norway.**

## *Like a toy*

**But by the aid of these weight-lifters British engineers have secured many contracts for locomotives and rolling-stock.**

**The secret of the success was that the goods could be delivered complete, ready to drop on their rails like a child's toy.**

**The older method was fraught with danger, as instanced in the case of a steamer which shipped a heavy locomotive from Birkenhead for a port on the West Coast of South America.**

**The engine was suspended over the rail in mid-air for lowering into a lighter alongside, when the steamer rolled and carried away her derrick.**

**The lighter was shattered into fragments as the locomotive crashed through her bottom into the deep water below.**

**One of the new weight-lifters recently delivered three steel lighters—an aggregate weight of 350 tons.**

**The extraordinary feature about the carriage of these three lighters was the length of them; they could only be stowed athwartships, as the remainder of the deck was filled by locomotives and railway carriages.**

## *Church on the wave*

**The beam of the ship measured 70 ft., so that the bows and sterns of the lighters had to project 15 ft. on each side of the hull.**

**One of the quaintest cargoes carried was a church, which was shipped in sections to the northern Pacific coast. Every portion was packed in cases—even to the altar, the organ, and the heating and lighting equipment.**

**The church was of substantial size, completely filled the holds of a steamer, and when it was erected not a single item was missing.**

**One of the strangest cargoes recently landed in London was that consigned to the Zoological Society. For over two years wild animals were collected in Malaya for the society.**

**Together with the reptiles, the different species numbered over 600. Special keepers accustomed to the feeding of the animals were sent out to the port of shipment, and a Blue Funnel liner carried them from Singapore to London free of charge.**

**Another British engineering triumph which has become world famous was the building of a train ferry-steamer at Wallsend-on-Tyne by Messrs. Swan, Hunter and Wigham Richardson, Ltd.**

**This vessel, named *Seatrain*, was specially built for America to carry trains between New Orleans and Havana, Cuba. She can carry ninety-six coaches, a feat which heretofore was considered impossible.**

**The secret of her effectiveness was that the builders designed railway sidings below decks, with hydraulic lifts leading from two lower holds to the upper deck.**

**Trains are run, carriage by carriage, on to the twin "cradle" elevators set up in frames over a huge hatchway leading to the "floor" of the ship.**

**To secure that the cars are solid when moving in a seaway, an additional rail has been introduced on each side of the train for the holding attachments.**

## *Floating railway*

**The loading is done by a cradle, which is lowered into a short pit level with the railway. The cars are run or pulled aboard by the ship's engines.**

**When full she is just a huge "box of trains." To look on to the main deck of the ship—which is nearly 430 ft. long—is very much like viewing a railway siding at the docks.**

**The *Seatrain* covers a distance of over 650 miles each trip between New Orleans and Havana.**

**Thus our shipyard workers and engineers overcome the world's mechanical difficulties.**

**Yes, there is still something to be said for old Britain.**

## JOHN BULL'S GIFT OFFER

### *Important Concession*

**The response to JOHN BULL'S sensational Gift Offer exceeded all expectations. Original supplies were quickly absorbed.**

**So as not to disappoint any of our readers, arrangements have been made to extend the offer for fifteen days.**

**Those readers who have not yet shared in the big gift distribution should avail themselves of this important concession without delay.**

**The Gift Coupon appears on page 12.**

SECTION 2.

# 'FAMILIAR FRIENDS'

FIRST PRIZE £10

SEVEN PRIZES OF £1.1.0 EACH

AT the foot of each advertisement below is a riddle. We will give a prize of £1 1s. 0d. for the best answer received in each case (seven in all) and in addition a prize of £10 for the brightest answer received in the whole of this section (Section 2). RULES:—Postcards only. Write clearly your name and address, giving number of advertisement and question printed and the answer submitted. Forward as many postcards as you like. You may choose any of the riddles. Only one answer allowed on each postcard. Editor's decision to be final. Closing date, January 10th, 1931. Address: "Familiar Friends," Section 2, JOHN BULL, 57, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

**All prizes, £10 First, seven of £1 : 1 : 0 each and a number of handsome Consolation Prizes, MUST BE WON!**

The prizes will be awarded for the best answers received to riddles on this page. You can select any number of riddles. There is no entrance fee and no limit to the number of entries. Aptness and originality will count. Do not write more than one Riddle and Answer on each postcard you submit for the many prizes offered on this page. If you are sending several postcards, forward them together in envelope bearing three-halfpenny stamp, addressed as above.

**In addition to the Cash Prizes, a number of Special Prizes will be awarded to replies from this page.**


## Do you know your age?

Age is not so much a matter of advancing years, as of hardening arteries. And our arteries are as old as our glands.

There is only one preparation that will keep the glands permanently *young*; that rejuvenates and revitalises . . . Nonn! that is how Nonn keeps you *young* and prevents hardened arteries.

Prices 1/3 & 3/- (Treble Size) From all Chemists.

**Nonn**

No. 1. *What is the difference between Nonn and the British Empire?*

## THE SOAP *that* BUILDS CHARACTER!

Fresh, fragrant and pure, Wright's Coal Tar Soap is the ideal companion for the nursery. It prevents infection and is kind to tender skins. Delightful to use, it instils habits of cleanliness.

**WRIGHT'S COAL TAR SOAP**

No. 2. *Why is Wright's Coal Tar Soap like a piano solo?*

## Keep Fit Nature's Way

Fruit holds the essence of summer suns — the life-giving vitamins. Fruit aids the digestion; promotes natural eliminations; purifies the blood and refreshes the palate.

*If you want to keep fit, therefore,*

**Eat more Fruit**

No. 3. *What is the difference between a grape and a hot water bottle?*

## QUALITY-FIRST!

With Black Cat Cigarettes, quality is always the first consideration. The same 100 per cent. pure Virginia tobacco that first brought them popularity—a still wider range of quality gifts by world famous firms; obtainable in the quickest time by smoking

**Black Cat RED BAND**

100% PURE VIRGINIA

*Quality* CIGARETTES

No. 4. *Why do Black Cat Cigarettes remind you of a speed-boat?*

NEVER SAY DYE DRUMMER

## DRUMMER DYES

now in POWDER and DOUBLE STRENGTH

*Still priced at 4d.*

No. 5. *Why are Drummer Dyes like Jockeys' Jackets?*

## Do You Know How Good Really Good Brown Bread Can Be?

There's more nourishment in Bermaline. All the vitamines from the wheat and malt are in its delicious slices. You don't know how good really good brown bread can be until you've tasted.

Baked by Good Bakers

**BERMALINE IDEAL WHEATEN MALTBREAD**

No. 6. *What is the difference between Bermaline and the Sphinx?*

## Tackle that Tickle with KILKOF!

Parkinsons Ltd. Manufacturing Chemists Burnley

Once let KILKOF get to grips with that cough of yours and before you realise it, the cough has disappeared.

KILKOF soothes as it cures.

Be sure to get

**KILKOF**

No. 7. *What is the difference between KILKOF and an Atlantic Liner?*

ENTER THIS FREE COMPETITION!


More Riddles and More Prizes on pages 25 and 29.

More Riddles and More Prizes on pages 25 and 29.

# What to do to help a Child

ANYONE knowing of a child who has been assaulted, neglected, or ill-treated in a manner likely to cause unnecessary suffering or injury to health, or of an ailing or crippled child who might be benefited by treatment, or knowing of a parent who is seeking advice on any matter concerning a child, would be doing an act of great kindness by communicating at once with the

LOCAL DISTRICT OFFICE
*or to*
WILLIAM J. ELLIOTT,
*Director,*

*The*
**N.S.P.C.C**
VICTORY HOUSE, LEICESTER SQ., LONDON, W.C.2.

*The informant's name will be kept strictly private (except in cases where malice is proved.)*

THE Society has 250 "Children's Men" throughout England, Wales and Ireland. Anyone willing to help ensure an endurable life for every child should address Sir G. Wyatt Truscott, Bart., Treasurer, NATIONAL SOCIETY for THE PREVENTION of CRUELTY to CHILDREN, Victory House, Leicester Square, London, W.C.2.



# 4 FAMOUS PRESCRIPTIONS FOR Backache

IN ALL ITS FORMS

**No. 40** For Backache with Muscular Rheumatism, nothing is better than this tablet. Composed of *Potas. Nitrate, Colchicum, Methylene Blue, Buchu, Venice Turpentine, Bearberry, Capsicum, Juniper Oil* and *Cubebs*. Dose.—1 or 2 thrice daily. Prices 1/9 (50), 2/6 (72), 4/6 (144).

**No. 41** For Backache, Associated with Constipation and Biliousness we recommend: *Potas. Nitrate, Buchu, Bearberry, Venice Turpentine, Juniper Oil, Aloes, Calomel, Capsicum* and *Charcoal*. Dose:—1 or 2 thrice daily.
Dose and Prices as No. 40.

**No. 42** For Backache with Nervousness and Indigestion this is a prompt remedy. It is composed of *Venice Turpentine, Juniper Oil, Potas. Nitrate, Bismuth Carbonate, Soda Carbonate, Capsicum, Nux Vomica* and *Phosphorus* in suitable proportions. Dose:—1 or 2 thrice daily just before meals. Prices as No. 40.

**No. 43** For Backache, Anæmia, Thinness and Depression. This wonderful prescription in tablet form contains *Haemoglobin Lecithin, Red Bone Marrow, Nux Vomica, Capsicum* and *Potas. Nitrate*. Dose:—1 or 2 thrice daily after meals. Prices 1/9 (50), 2/6 (72), 4/6 (144).

**THEY SAVE DOCTOR'S BILLS**

These Prescriptions are obtainable post free from

**MR. WILLIAM SHADFORTH,**
PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMIST
(Shadforth Prescription Service, Ltd.),
(Dept. J.B. 29), 43, King William Street, London Bridge, E.C.4.

*Branches:* 168, *High Street, Walthamstow, E.17*; 609, *Barking Road, East Ham, E.6*; 1a, *Portman Road, West Ham, E.15*; 6, *Ashton Parade, Chadwell Heath*; 1168, *Green Lane, Becontree Heath*; 2, *Heath Park Parade, Gidea Park*; 44, *London Road, Romford*; and 63, *Green Road, Bow, London, E.3.*

**FREE COUPON To Purchasers**

TO THE SHADFORTH PRESCRIPTION SERVICE, LTD.

I should like to have a free copy of your Book of Prescriptions No. A309 with my enclosed order.

*Name* .....

*Address* .....

*John Bull Advert.*


# TRAGIC SEQUEL TO A GHOST HUNT

LAST New Year's Eve a pal and I were working late at an engineering works. Near by is an ancient church and a graveyard reputed to be haunted.

The bells were ringing the old year out and the new year in, when I and my mate, who were listening, began to talk about the supernatural and the folly of superstitious fear.

It was windy, and my mate, shivering, said that for his part he preferred neither to affirm nor deny the possibility of ghostly visitations, but he was always willing to investigate.

Upon this I suggested there was no time like the present, as the close of a year was a time most favourable for ghostly visitants to appear.

The rain was coming down and the wind kept up an eerie howling in the trees, but we put on our coats and reached the graveyard just as midnight struck.

I admit my own nerves were taut, and when a swishing crack, followed by a loud crash, sounded behind us they gave way completely.

It was only a large bough snapped off from a tree that in its turn hit a stone urn on a monument, knocking it over. It was too much for me; I just shrieked like any booby, and ran.

I thought that my friend had run with me, but he did not turn up, and next day I got an awful shock.

He had been found dead in the churchyard soon after daybreak, and at the inquest it was found that the cause of death was heart failure, due to the noise of the falling tree.

Unhappily, so far as public opinion went, this verdict later received a terrible rider. It was found that the old church had been entered during the night and the offertory-boxes broken open.

The stigma at once attached itself to my poor dead friend and his family, as everyone is sure that, as his way home certainly did not lie through the churchyard, he could not have been there for any good purpose.

I could have cleared up all this with one word had I found the courage to speak out about our ghost-hunting bravado, but in my panic I said I had not seen him after 11.30, when he left the works alone.

The poor chap was buried in a cloud of suspicion that has darkened the lives of his wife and children ever since.

Yet, stricken with remorse though I am, I cannot make up my mind to speak about the matter.

If I tell the truth, I feel sure I shall be made to stand my trial for being concerned in the robbery.

Is there any other way to clear the name of my dead friend?

## HUMAN DOCUMENTS

HERE you read some tough problems of real ... and the solutions that "HUMANIST" proposes for them. ... day you, too, will be up against a difficulty which you cannot ... alone. "HUMANIST" will deal with it through the post ... Send a stamped, addressed envelope. For the three most ... documents published the Editor will pay £2 2s., £1 1s. ... 10s. 6d.

"HUMANIST" says: You have certainly made your task harder by telling a lie. Openness at the inquest might have saved all trouble.

You might write a letter to your local paper, saying that your friend had declared his intention of testing the truth of the ghost, but you withheld this information for fear of holding him up to ridicule until you found him being suspected of something worse.

## "SILVER GANG"
### —leader must face the music

FOR some years I have earned my living as a steward on an ocean-going liner belonging to a world-famous line.

On my last voyage, I was working in the third-class and our routine was to wait at table, then collect up the "silver" as we cleared away and wash it. Each waiter had to wash his own collection.

This constituted our grievance, as "silver," properly done, is a long job, and we thought there should have been a washer-up set apart for the lot.

The grumbling culminated in a brilliant idea, which I own I was the first to start.

To get our own back on what we considered the niggardly management, we dumped a few knives, forks and spoons over the side whenever we were in an extra rush.

Then the hint of trouble started. The boys laying the table for the second sitting would find they were short of gear. The head waiter could not make it out and began to query.

At last, perhaps inadvertently, a German waiter gave the show away.

A talk with the head ... in my being hailed before the ... who ordered that I should be ... out of all saloons for the rest of ... voyage and given other work.

On reaching port I was discharged without character, though the other lads of the "silver gang" were kept on. This I thought a bit unjust, though I knew I was being punished as a ring-leader.

But worse was to follow. When I got home I found I had left behind me on the ship a wallet which contained some loose cash, whereupon I wrote to the head steward, asking if he would have a look for it.

I also asked him if the past could be overlooked and the other boys forgiven for their share in the "silver" fraud.

The upshot is that, instead of the wallet, I hear that my letter has been placed in the hands of one of the company's detectives, who is on his way to interview me as to its meaning.

I am filled with foreboding and wonder, if he asks me straight out for the names of the others concerned in the "silver" fraud, if I ought to give away my late pals.

"HUMANIST" says: Don't try to fix upon others the blame for what has occurred.

You have been thoroughly dishonest, and if your next berth is a police-court for wilful destruction of your employers' goods, you must take your medicine like a man. As a first-offender you have hope of mercy.

## MAN WHO LOVES
### her money

I HAVE walked out for several years with a young man who has never asked me to become engaged, though at a very early stage in our friendship it was understood that we should be, one day.

I was content at first because my sweetheart explained that he had got into debt through unemployment, but he was determined to clear up everything now he was in work.

Afterwards he would begin in good earnest to save for a home.

I sympathised, and determined to help, but as fast as we paid off one debt another would turn up. He protested against accepting my money, but took it all the same.

Recently I have had a breakdown through overwork, and during my illness, though I could very well have done with some of my money back to buy a few comforts, my friend never even came to see me.

When I recovered he accepted my company again as a matter of course, but expressed no sentiment about my illness and convalescence one way or the other.

As for marriage, he has long ago ceased to speak of it, and I am beginning to wonder if it is me he wants or only my money.

"HUMANIST" says: Cease giving this man money and find out the truth. If his intentions are not serious and he shows no sign of saving towards a home, break off the friendship and don't allow yourself to be fooled.

# OUR EXPERT SAYS—

## Football Forecasts for Saturday, December 27

**FIRST DIVISION.**
(1) CHELSEA v. Grimsby.
*(2) ARSENAL v. Blackpool.
**(3) ASTON VILLA v. Manchester U.
(4) BLACKBURN v. Liverpool.
(5) DERBY v. Leicester.
(6) HUDDERSFIELD v. West Ham.
(7) MANCHESTER C. v. Sunderland.
(8) MIDDLESBROUGH v. Bolton.
(9) Newcastle v. WEDNESDAY.
(10) PORTSMOUTH v. Leeds.
(11) SHEFFIELD U. v. Birmingham.

**SECOND DIVISION.**
(1) CHARLTON v. Bradford C.
(2) Barnsley v. PORT VALE.
(3) BRADFORD v. Oldham.
(4) Bristol C. v. W.B. Albion.
(5) BURY v. Burnley.
(6) CARDIFF v. Swansea.
**(7) EVERTON v. Plymouth.
(8) Reading v. TOTTENHAM.
(9) SOUTHAMPTON v. Preston.
(10) STOKE v. Millwall.
(11) WOLVES v. Forest.

**THIRD DIVISION (Southern).**
*(1) TORQUAY v. Newport.
(2) BOSCOMBE v. Swindon.
(3) BRENTFORD v. Luton.
(4) BRIGHTON v. Gillingham.
(5) ORIENT v. Walsall.
(6) PALACE v. Southend.
*(7) NORTHAMPTON v. Bristol R.
(8) NORWICH v. Exeter.
*(9) NOTTS C. v. Coventry.
(10) Thames v. Q.P. Rangers.
(11) WATFORD v. Fulham.

**THIRD DIVISION (Northern).**
(1) Nelson v. Rochdale.
(2) CARLISLE v. Chesterfield.
(3) CREWE v. Accrington.
(4) DONCASTER v. Gateshead.
(5) Hartlepools v. HALIFAX.
(6) HULL v. Stockport.
**(7) LINCOLN v. N. Brighton.
**(8) TRANMERE v. Barrow.
(9) WIGAN v. Darlington.
(10) WREXHAM v. Southport.
(11) YORK v. Rotherham.

**SCOTTISH LEAGUE.**
**(1) CELTIC v. Falkirk.
(2) Airdrie v. Morton.
(3) Ayr United v. CLYDE.
(4) COWDENBEATH v. Queens Park.
**(5) DUNDEE v. East Fife.
(6) Hearts v. RANGERS.
(7) Leith v. ABERDEEN.
*(8) MOTHERWELL v. Hibs.
**(9) PARTICK v. Kilmarnock.
(10) St. Mirren v. Hamilton.

Probable winners are set in CAPITALS. Where no distinction is made a draw is likely. Best selections are marked with two asterisks and next best with one.

**This Week's Star**

*Brook, Manchester City's brilliant left winger*

## WINNERS IN CODE

As injuries to players and consequent alterations in teams may affect the chances of different clubs, we shall publish last-minute JOHN BULL special selections in code in the *Daily Herald* and *Sporting Life* each Friday morning.

(Note.—The next code will be published on Saturday, December 27, owing to Christmas.)

Division and number will be quoted as above together with *H* for home team and *A* for away team.

Example Code.—Div. I—3(*H*), 3(*H*); Div. II.—7(*H*); Southern Section—7(*H*), 9(*H*); Northern Section—7(*H*), 3(*H*); Scottish League—5(*H*), 9(*H*), would indicate Arsenal, Aston Villa, Everton, Northampton, Notts C., Lincoln, Tranmere, Dundee and Partick.

SECTION 3.

# 'FAMILIAR FRIENDS'

FIRST PRIZE £10 For best Reply to any Riddle in this Page.

AT the foot of each advertisement below is a riddle. We will give a prize of £1 10s. 0d. for the best answer received in each case (seven in all) and in addition a prize of £10 for the brightest answer received in the whole of this section (Section 3). RULES.—Postcards only. Write clearly your name and address, giving number of advertisement and question printed and the answer submitted. Forward as many postcards as you like. You may choose any of the riddles. Only one answer allowed on each postcard. Editor's decision to be final. Closing date, January 10th, 1931. Address: "Familiar Friends," Section 3, JOHN BULL, 37, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

SEVEN PRIZES OF £1.1.0 EACH For best Reply to Riddle in each Panel Advertisement on this Page.

**All prizes, £10 First, seven of £1 : 1 : 0 each and a number of handsome Consolation Prizes, MUST BE WON!**

The prizes will be awarded for the best answers received to riddles on this page. You can select any number of riddles. There is no entrance fee and no limit to the number of entries. Aptness and originality will count. Do not write more than one Riddle and Answer on each postcard you submit for the many prizes offered on this page. If you are sending several postcards, forward them together in envelope bearing three-halfpenny stamp, addressed as above.

**In addition to the Cash Prizes, a number of Special Prizes will be awarded to replies from this page.**

---

*Why should you always insist on—*

**GORDON'S GIN?**

Because it's WHITEST,

PUREST & BEST.

CONTAINS NO COLOURING MATTER

AND IS GOOD FOR YOU.

**No. 1.** *Why is Gordon's Gin like a Virgin?*

---

Use Anzora Cream for greasy scalps. Anzora Viola is for dry scalps. Sold in 1/6 and 3/6 (double quantity) bottles by Chemists, Hairdressers and Stores.

**look smart!**

Make the most of your hair—use Anzora. You'll have your hair as you want it the whole day through! Anzora is the first and finest hair fixative, so see you get it.

**ANZORA**

MASTERS THE HAIR

ANZORA PERFUMERY Co., Ltd., London, N.W.6.

**No. 2.** *Why is Anzora like a Diary?*

---

**Easier, quicker writing!**

For easy writing, speedy writing, and all round efficiency, Platignum Pens lead.

No pen at any price can give you better service. Every one is guaranteed 100 per cent. efficient and there are nib points for every hand.

Get your Platignum to-day.

made in England.

**Platignum 1/3 and 2/6**

12 MODELS 21 COLOURS 5 NIB POINTS

*If unable to obtain, write for free illustrated catalogue to*

BENTMORE MANUFACTURING Co., Ltd., (Dept. NJFF), Platignum House, Hackney, E.9.

**No. 3.** *Why are Platignum Pens like Schoolboys?*

---

**SMILE at Winter's Worst**

Don't let coughs and colds get their depressive grip on you—take Galloway's Cough Syrup—the speediest and most reliable remedy. Used by thousands—always the most beneficial.

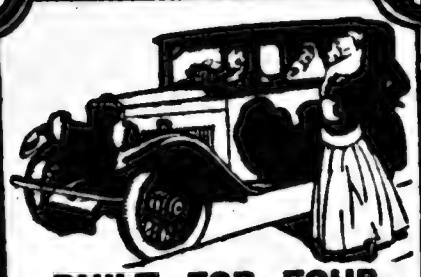
**GALLOWAY'S COUGH SYRUP**

Sold by all Chemists and Stores. Price 1/1 and 2/6 per bottle, or direct from P. H. Galloway, Ltd., Chemists, London, S.E.17. Price 1/9 and 3/3 post free.

**1/3** *Per Bottle of all Chemists*

**No. 4.** *What is the difference between Galloway's and a newspaper?*

---



**BUILT FOR FOUR**

Built to hold four—sprung to keep four comfortable. Powered for speed with smoothness; planned to give more comfort for less cost than any other car on earth. Try it—any time you like.

THE **SWIFT** "CADET"

"Cadet" 8 h.p. 4-seater Tourer £160
"Cadet" 8 h.p. 4-seater Saloon £185

SWIFT OF COVENTRY LTD., COVENTRY.

**No. 5.** *What is the difference between the Swift "Cadet" and Napoleon?*

---

**Restore Your Strength!**

Wonderful WINCARNIS! It always makes people feel—and look—better. It builds up the invalid and the tired. It brings new life to the aged and infirm. It is a perfect tonic in a delicious form. A splendid safeguard, also, against Influenza, Coughs, Colds, etc.

*Have you tasted Wincarnis Old Wine Jelly? Try it. Kiddies and grown-ups love it alike!*

**WINCARNIS**

**No. 6.** *What is the difference between Wincarnis and a pack of cards?*

---

**Eat without fear this Xmas!**

A little over-indulgence is natural at this time of the year. Yet many are haunted with the fear of ills that may follow any unusual habit or diet.

You need never worry if you have a bottle of Dr. Kilmer's Swamp Root handy. It keeps the liver and kidneys in order, cleanses the body of impurities, banishes all rheumatic troubles and stimulates every organ.

**Dr. Kilmer's SWAMP-ROOT**

1/3, 3/- & 5/-

Dr. KILMER & Co., Brixton Rd., London, S.W.2.

**No. 7.** *Why is Swamp Root like a 'moth' plane?*

---

ENTER THIS FREE COMPETITION!

More Riddles and More Prizes on pages 25 and 27.

More Riddles and More Prizes on pages 25 and 27.

BET WITH THE BIG TWO!

*Business all the Year Round*

RACING

The same Generous Terms as offered on the Flat apply to

NATIONAL HUNT RACING

NO LIMIT—
WIN OR PLACE.

Bets on Favourites accepted for Singles, Doubles, Trebles, Accumulators.

Books now open on all the Big Events,

LINCOLNSHIRE,
GRAND NATIONAL,
DERBY.

FOOTBALL

The Highest Possible Odds with the Greatest Possible Security offered on the

CHALLENGER (CREDIT) COUPON.

*Send for Rules and Lists.*

DAVID COPE
& ALFRED H. MAURICE, Ltd.
(Dept. J.B.)
227, BATH ST., GLASGOW, C.2

"John Bull" Guarantee.

EVERY article advertised in "John Bull" carries with it a "money-back" guarantee.

All foods, food products, toilet preparations, medicines and drugs, and other articles capable of a laboratory test which have been approved by our experts are marked—

In the case of medicines and drugs we guarantee that if they are taken or applied according to the directions they will have no injurious effects.

Naturally this guarantee applies only to manufactured articles, but every care is taken to satisfy ourselves as to the bona fides of all advertisements in "John Bull." Any complaint must reach us within one month from the appearance of the advertisement in "John Bull," and in the case of dispute the decision of our Managing Director shall be final.

*ODHAMS PRESS LTD.*,
Proprietors of "John Bull."

PSORIASIS

Eczema and all other Skin Diseases Completely and Permanently Cured by this Wonderful Herbal Treatment. GUARANTEED RESULTS OR MONEY RETURNED. Every case treated individually with an experience extending over 50 years. Send post card for FREE BOOK sent under plain cover.

J. ROBINSON & SONS,
11, RUSHEY HOUSE, BRADFORD.

# Our Letter Parliament

ORIGINAL letters upon the subject below, not exceeding 120 words, are invited. 10s. will be paid for each letter published. Envelopes, marked "Letter Parliament," must reach us by first post on Tuesday, September 30.

**Charity Sweeps—For or Against**

# What I Want THIS NEW YEAR

FOR my country—happiness, contentment, and freedom from strife, international and local.

For myself—a living wage and continuous work, a thoughtfulness for others, and a kindliness for the "underdog."

For my wife—a year care-free, that she may, in the autumn of life, forget the worries of earlier struggles.

For my children—a sense of sturdy independence that shall make them realise that the best things in life are worth "working" for.—*Hopeful, Hull.*

## Scattered Sunshine

A nurse over a large rural area, what I want in the New Year is health and strength to carry out my duties, knowledge and understanding to appreciate my patients' sufferings and the ability to alleviate them, to scatter sunshine and hope wherever I go.

There are a few cases of cancer in my district, and I wish the New Year would produce some cure which is within these sufferers' meagre allowances.—*Nurse, Aberystwyth.*

## Fiction?

"Excuse me," I said, as I signed the unemployment-book, "I wish to sign off."

"You've found work?" the official questioned.

I nodded.

"Sign off over there," he directed.

I started in the direction indicated, then stopped, amazed at the extraordinary long queue.

"What!" I gasped. "Are all those men signing off?"

"Yes," came the answer, "hundreds have signed off to-day, and the same thing is happening all over the country; augurs well for the New Year, eh?"

I agreed, and, turning, took my place behind a remarkably cheerful queue.

I want to record the above as true.—*E. W. Henry, Foleshill.*

## Just

Just a little cottage, with room enough to stir; just a little garden, enough for me and her; just a little comfort around our own fireside; just a little music, the blackbird will provide.

Just a little money to help a friend in need; just a little bookshelf with books I want to read.

Just a little leisure when my daily work is done—this is what I'm wanting in 1931.—*M. E. Potter, London, N.*

## Same Old Thing

The year 1931 to be a real New Year, not, as so many have been, just a repetition of the old.

Year after year it has been the same old grind, the same old quarrels, the same old excuse for putting my man on the "dole."

The same old bad housing, food and clothing. The same old Party bickerings of politicians, and suspicion and arming among the nations.

I hope the New Year will be different and better.—*Mother of Five, Drybrook.*

## A Stout Heart

To be endowed with one particular asset—the asset of optimism—in the fight against the demoralising scourge of unemployment; one particular gift—the gift of confidence—that we may overcome the present trade depression; one particular blessing—the blessing of a stout heart—in the long up-hill fight to prosperity.

For myself I desire nothing more than that my friends may have health and happiness, and that I may have the courage and will to work hard in the realisation of a long-cherished dream—a cottage for two.—*T. McC., Belfast.*

## Mockery

A concerted attack on unemployment. There is no more soul-destroying experience than continued inability to find work to provide the means to live.

As each year has dawned, during the last decade, we have been told, with wearisome iteration, that rock-bottom had been reached, that a silver lining was discernible, only to find things getting infinitely worse.

Let 1931 see an end to fatuous talk about doles and work-shys, and a beginning with a real attempt to solve a problem which makes a mockery of the old wish, "A Happy New Year."—*A. Douglas Henderson, Neath.*

## Some Beauty

To have just enough money to live at ease myself, with a good margin to do kindnesses to others.

Health sufficiently good to be able to carry on my work in life, with energy to spare for pleasure, too.

To have some sunshine, some joy, some beauty to gladden the eye, each day of the New Year.—*Francis, Littlehampton.*

## Only a Robot

Some surcease from the sentence of "industrial hard labour"; some modicum of ease brought into a life which now offers no respite from the monotony of repetition work.

Some degree of financial prosperity and leisure that I may become more a human being and less a working, sleeping robot.

Call it idleness, discontent or ambition, many thousands will echo my wish.—*"Fed Up," Brookfields.*

## Welcome Demand

I want to be compelled to pay income-tax. I shall not seek loopholes to avoid paying my fair share to the State, but will cheerfully and promptly despatch the amount due.

All this is not because I am fanatically patriotic, nor through any promptings of a guilty conscience.

It means that I shall at long last be earning sufficient to enable me to support my family decently.—*W. Jackson, London, S.W.*

## Warrior's Return

Three wishes to come true and I will be the happiest girl on earth.

The first is that my husband will come back to me safe and sound, the second that he will get a decent job, and my last wish is that we get our chance of happiness in married life.

We were married only two months when my husband, a soldier, was called upon for foreign service. The New Year means his last year in the Army.—*F. Moore, Durham.*

## Play the Game

Fresh courage to face life's little problems.

Renewed hope that I may yet reach my set goal.

Ability to give a word of encouragement to those not so favourably placed in life's race.

The realisation that I am playing the game fairly and cleanly, and

The spirit that compels me to congratulate the winners as sincerely as I want them to congratulate me when I take their place.—*J. K. N., Small Heath.*

## No Strikes

A sounder understanding between master and man as to working conditions and wages, so that we shall not have persons working for a wage unfit to live on and only merely existing, as some do at present.

Settlement of all disputes without a strike if possible, and no strikes at all.

An improvement in all trades which would be better for us as a nation, and an amicable settlement of the Indian crisis.—*F. E. Horrocks, Lancs.*

* * *

## Ringing In—

Peace on earth and good will to all men to last all the year round, not just for the festive week.—*F. R. L., Altercliffe.*

To see every able-bodied man working, and all employment exchanges turned into business premises.—*T. R. Jones, Cheshire.*

Less talk and more do.—*M. Smith, Poole.*

JOHN BULL to be as interesting as it has been during 1930.—*N. Horsfall, Yorks.*

A house at a rental I can afford to pay without too much pinching and scraping.—*Exonian.*

*Race with "Silver Ring"*

# Put These in Your New Diary

JACK FROST'S satellite Fog and the break before the Christmas festivities have relegated racing to a back seat, but during some bright intervals I have ear-marked a few jumpers likely to pay their way early in the New Year.

Adion, owned by Mrs. Edgar Wallace, caught my eye at Lingfield in a juvenile hurdle race, a mile-and-a-half event.

He will probably come up at an early date.

At Lingfield, too, I liked the way The Tyke pressed Residue in the Winter Hurdle.

Starkader was a "job" at Derby in the long-distance hurdle (2½ miles), but his journey was a little too far. Over two miles and a half the losses should come back.

At Windsor I made a special note of Mountain Slip, Magic Moon and Lounge Lizard.

Mountain Slip is one of the best-looking 'chasers in training, and was backed like a certainty. He had no earthly chance in the race, as Observatory blundered at the water directly in front of him.

Magic Moon was up against one of the smartest hurdlers for many a long day in Merano, in the Mill Hurdle. He finished third and will move up a couple of places before long.

The last of the trio, Lounge Lizard, won a "seller," but now that he is sound again will do better things. Lounge Lizard was very smart as a "rookie," but contracted water on the knee, and "Dick" Dale had the task of patching him up for Nightingall.

Dale has performed many miracles with crocks. When training near Seaford, he told me that in the East he had made a study of sea-water cures. It is often a long job, but he usually succeeds once he takes up a case.

I have three holiday tips for Kempton Park this week-end. The first is Parson's Well on the Bank Holiday, and the others—Saturday selections—Insurance and Burning Bush.

### "JOHN BULL'S" CODE

The Code for this week is as follows. It covers the racing from Friday, December 26, to Wednesday, December 31.

B C D V P E J U S O T A N G Q K
X P B Z H I L M W Y 43 45 46 47 48 49

In place of the letters or figures advertised in the *Sporting Life* and *Daily Herald* read those above or below, as the case may be. Example:

WF45M46YD would read SHAUN OR.

Where a double letter occurs in the name of a horse the figure 2 is substituted. Example:

PY2JI would read COOLE.

"SILVER RING."

Christmas Eve brings

# Player's Please

Flat Pocket Tin

**50 for 2/6**

Also Blue Tins containing

**100 for 4/10**

**150 for 7/3**

*It's the Tobacco that Counts*

N.C.C 13 B.

# A Man's Gift!

You may be wondering, "Where can I get an inexpensive present that will enjoy a sure welcome?" If for a man, nothing could meet your case better than "Tremola" Shirts or Pyjamas. While their prices are very moderate, they have an air of serviceability that use will not belie. As to designs, these are very numerous and very tasteful. Mention "Tremola" at a man's shop, and you will be supplied. Write to the Manufacturers, 19, Watling Street, London, E.C.4, if you have any difficulty.

## Would you like a trial bottle of WINCARNIS?

If readers of "John Bull" would like to try a couple of glasses of Wincarnis—the *tonic* Wine—Send 4d. in stamps to cover postage, for a small trial bottle, to Coleman & Co., Ltd., Dept. H., Wincarnis Works, Norwich.

## SKIN DISEASES

### *Wonderful New Treatment*

### *"Elasto Made Skin Soft as Velvet."*

"I am pleased to tell you I am completely cured from that terrible disease, varicose eczema and psoriasis, from which I was suffering, and I can only thank Elasto for the wonderful and speedy cure. My legs now show no trace of the old trouble and my skin is as soft as velvet. I think Elasto is the safest and cleanest and best blood purifier in the world. . . ."

(Signed) Mr. E. J. BEAUCHAMP.
30, British Grove, Chiswick, W.4.

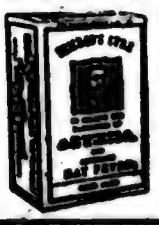
The New Elasto Treatment is bringing quick relief and permanent cure to thousands of sufferers from Eczema, Psoriasis, Dermatitis, Bad Legs, etc.

### *Send for Free Sample.*

Elasto treatment is fully explained in a special booklet which we will gladly send, privately, post free, together with **Free Sample** and copies of recent testimonials. Write for these to-day. Now! Or send 5/- for a full month's treatment (in plain wrapper) and see for yourself what a wonderful difference Elasto makes!

**The NEW ERA TREATMENT COMPANY**
(Dept. 153), Cook House, Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C.

## ASTHMA




Sufferers from Asthma find instant relief in this standard remedy of 60 years standing.

4/6 a tin at all chemists.

**Himrod's ASTHMA CURE**

*Have you sent in your entries for*

**"FAMILIAR FRIENDS" FREE COMPETITION?**

*See pp. 25, 27, 29.*


# WIN JOHN BULLS' BIG X-WORD PRIZE!

**£50** FOR RUNNERS UP

**'XTRA X-WORD PRIZES**

In addition to the £650 Cash prizes, an extra prize of a big "John Bull" Hamper will be awarded to every prize-winner in this week's contest

WHAT could *you* do with a £600 cash prize? Here is the opportunity of having a cheque for this big amount sent to you if you enter for "John Bull's" must-be-won contest. In addition there is £50 being awarded to runners up in this competition, as well as a "John Bull" hamper full of good things. Don't miss this excellent opportunity of winning £600—fill in the little squares below and enter for this fascinating and profitable pastime without delay.

"John Bull" will pay £600 for a correct solution on one form of "John Bull's" Crossword No. 95, appearing below. Failing a correct solution, the prize will be awarded to the reader whose entry is the nearest correct solution. An additional £50 will be divided between those competitors whose solutions contain one error only, or only one error more than the winning solution. In addition every cash prize-winner in this contest will also receive an extra award of a "John Bull" Hamper. Every reader has an equal opportunity—no competitor may send in more than one Sixpenny double entry—entry fee Sixpence for TWO attempts. No claims required. No entries accepted after Thursday (noon), January 1st. Solution of puzzle will be published in "John Bull" on sale Thursday, January 8th. Winner will be given in "John Bull" on sale Thursday, Jan. 15th, 1931.

**Read these Rules and Conditions carefully.**

1. Fill in puzzle opposite **IN ORDINARY INK**, not copying-ink or copying-ink pencil, sign your name and write your address in **BLOCK CAPITALS**. Cut out coupon, place it with a Postal Order value sixpence in an envelope bearing a **three-halfpenny** stamp and post to **"John Bull" Crosswords (No. 95), 37, Long Acre, London, W.C.2 (Comp.)**, so as to reach us not later than noon on Thursday, **January 1st.**
**Entry MUST be sent by post.**

2. Postal Orders must be made payable to Odhams Press Ltd., and crossed — / & Co. / — and the date of sending the order, complete with the name and address of competitor, must be written on the back. The number of the Postal Order must be written in the space provided in the Entry Form. Stamps cannot in any circumstances be accepted.

3. No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for any coupon lost, delayed, not delivered, or mislaid. Proof of posting will not be accepted as proof of delivery and no correspondence will be entered into.

4. In the event of a tie the £600 prize will be divided between those competitors whose coupons are correct or contain fewest errors, but no competitor shall receive more than one share. Competitors should note that errors are computed according to the number of words which incorrectly answer the clues given.

5. Mutilated or altered Entry Forms will be disqualified. Solutions must be complete and filled in on Entry Forms provided.

**6. No competitor may send in more than the two solutions "A" and "B" provided for on the Entry Forms.**

7. The correct solution of the puzzle is known only to the Editor and will be kept under seal until all entries have been received.

8. The result of this competition will be published in the issue of "John Bull" on sale **Thursday, January 15th.** Any competitor who claims to have sent in a solution which is identical with the published solution or contains as few errors as the competitor announced as the £600 prize-winner may have a scrutiny by demanding the same by or before first post **Tuesday, January 20th,** after which date the prize-money will be dispatched and no claim will be considered.

9. If such demand is found to be correct the result will be amended accordingly, and any competitor demanding a scrutiny must accept as final the result of such scrutiny as certified by the Editor.

10. Every request for a scrutiny must be made by Registered Letter only, and must be accompanied by a remittance of £5, which will be returned to the competitor if his claim proves valid.

Request for scrutiny must be addressed to:—**The Competition Editor "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2.** Envelopes should be marked "Scrutiny" in top left-hand corner. All applications must be accompanied by a copy of Entry Forms and number of Postal Order. No claims for scrutiny can be entertained in connection with the additional award of £50 cash, the winners of which will be finally decided according to the result of our careful searches of all entries.

11. Entries for this Competition must not be enclosed with "Bullets" entries or other correspondence addressed to "John Bull."

12. The Editor's decision is final and legally binding in all matters relating to this competition, and acceptance of this condition is an express condition of entry.

13. Employees of Odhams Press Ltd. and members of their families are not allowed to compete.

14. Failure to comply with any of the conditions involves disqualification.

**Closing Date, Thursday (Noon), January 1st.**

CUT HERE

## "JOHN BULL" CROSSWORD No. 95

*Entry Form "A."*

JB 95

*Do not separate these forms.*

*Entry Form "B."*

JB 95

CUT HERE

CUT HERE

**In entering this Competition I agree to abide by the Editor's decision as final in all matters appertaining thereto and enclose 6d. P.O. No.....**

**These Entry Forms must not be separated and a postal order for SIXPENCE must be enclosed to cover either ONE OR BOTH entries.**

SIGNED .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

**Closing Date Thursday (noon), January 1st.**

CUT HERE

N.B.—Cut out the above Form complete.

**Don't run the risk of being late—fill in and post your coupons early.**

### *Clues Across.*

1. KIND.
4. LEAN.
8. THE EAST.
10. MUSICAL INSTRUMENT AND FLOWER.
12. INDICATES MAIDEN NAME.
13. STRONG FABRIC.
14. HARD TO GET IN AMERICA.
16. SMALL BIRD.
18. THIS NEEDS PLAYING CAREFULLY.
19. OPPOSITE TO WEST.
21. THESE KEEP CATTLE FROM STRAYING.
22. PART OF A CIRCLE.
24. FEMALE SHEEP.
25. FONDLE A PET.
30. LENDS COLOUR TO SALAD.
34. SACRED BUILDING.
36. FRENCH COIN.
37. LICENSED VEHICLES.
38. FAVOURED ANIMAL.
39. A METAL.
40. NEITHER.
41. MAKES COMEDIAN'S FORTUNE.
42. GOOD ONE MAKES US FEEL BETTER.

### *Clues Down.*

1. CLOTHES MAY BE THIS IN THE WASH.
2. WORN ON HER FINGERS.
3. STARTING-PLACE AT GOLF.
5. SECURE VENGEANCE.
6. SMALL QUANTITY OF DRINK.
7. HARBOUR INN-KEEPERS ACCUSTOMED TO.
9. FRESH.
11. THESE FASTEN YOUR SHOES.
15. WE HEAR WITH THEM.
17. FARMER WILL SHOW YOU.
18. CONSUMED.
20. SAILOR.
23. COLOURED LIKE A ROSE.
26. PET CAT OFTEN IS THIS.
27. WHAT CARRIES WIRELESS WAVES.
28. MOVE SUDDENLY.
29. DIPLOMAT SOMETIMES RELIES ON.
31. CEREAL.
32. STAR-LIKE FLOWER.
33. LABOURS.
35. WHAT A NOISE IT MAKES!
38. COOKING UTENSIL.

*Chambers's 20th Century Dictionary and Nuttall's Dictionary (date of each) were used in compiling these puzzles.*

**Winners in Crossword No. 93 appear on page 25.**

## Solution of "John Bull" X-Word No. 94

JB 94.

Result will be published next week. The solution of "John Bull" X-word No. 94 is given here with as a matter of interest to our X-word competitors. We wish to emphasise that no claims are required for this X-word, as all entries are being carefully examined by our staff.

A special prize of £5 will be awarded to the Newsagent from whom the £600 winner usually purchases his copy of "John Bull." Should the £600 be shared the £5 will be divided between sharers' Newsagents.

**WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED THIS X-WORD, TRY YOUR SKILL IN THE "DAILY HERALD" X-WORD NEXT SATURDAY—£600 MUST BE WON.**

# Write to "John Bull" About It!

*J. W. (Teddington).—"Is the top hat still popular?" . . .*

Miss C. (Bow).—"My face is my fortune." Don't get it lifted.

F.X.9 (Pentonville Hill).—"Once I wore the King's uniform." Did your seven years seem long?

T. B. (Ware).—"Many women marry for a house." Some marry for a flat and get him.

COOK (Sutton).—"Blue is my favourite colour." So you are engaged to a "bobby."

MRS. V. (Southsea).—"Our maid is worth her weight in gold." Is she as slim as all that?

C. V. (Norbury).—"I have just become engaged to a telephone operator." Ring off—ring on.

G. G. (Ventnor).—"I've changed my mind." You don't mean to say the other one was worse than this?

JANE (Mayfair).—"A servant is a very useful member of society." Especially when she keeps her place.

K. F. (Wimbledon).—"Things seldom turn out as expected." Including the woman in the car ahead.

F. B. (Leeds).—"Wild horses would not drag me to him." He should tempt you with a nice motor-car.

FREE LANCE (Fleet Street).—"All the papers fight to get my stuff." What do you write—advertisements?

M. T. (Giggleswerth).—"Is there any cure for outstanding ears?" You should patronise an absent-minded barber.

W. W. (Oldham).—"There are among our postmen some men of really good education." Men of letters, in fact.

T. T. (Bolton).—"Do you mind having to answer so many foolish questions?" Oh, no, yours only makes one more.

H. D. (London, N.).—"The latest craze is round letter-boxes for front doors." For receiving circulars?

F. P. (Burnley).—"Do you think it is right for my wife to think more of her dog than me?" We haven't seen it.

G. M. (Dedham).—"I like the cold weather as long as it doesn't blow." And even in rainy weather it's not so dusty.

A. W. (Sunderland).—"My wife wrote to you on the 10th, but she dated the letter the 15th." Did she ask you to post it?

PRO (Doncaster).—"I fail to see why women shouldn't make excellent billiard players." Finding the pockets would be easy enough.

R. N. (St. Albans).—"A scientist claims to have perfected a lie-detecting machine." Nothing new in that. Many a man has married one.

T. J. G. (London, W.C.).—"I recently found myself at the same dinner-party as Mr. Bernard Shaw?" That ought to teach you to be more careful.

G. M. (Piccadilly).—"I went to a ball the other night, and theatrical stars scintillated all around me." How many times had you been to the buffet?

G. N. (Whitstable).—"The oyster is said to be the most foolish of all fish." That may be, but it has sense enough to get itself a four months' holiday every year.

H. D. (Gravesend).—"Scientists can achieve almost anything these days." Then we hope one of them will hurry up and invent a cigarette the ashes of which will match the colour of the rug.

TIM (Newcastle).—"My wife doesn't trust me. Does yours?" We don't know. We have never heard her even mention your name.

J. V. (Wembley).—"Boxing can be taught by post." The mailed fist.

F. D. (Tamworth).—"I write, I write, and I write." Alas, alas, and alas!

MANUFACTURER (Walsall).—"Where has our overseas trade gone?" Overseas.

F. P. (Baldock).—"How should one eat haggis?" With reckless abandon.

R. G. (Dulwich).—"My landlady says I had better board elsewhere." Had you?

SYLVIA (Marlow).—"With a single bound my lover was at my side." Good dog!

S. B. (Leyton).—"Now my children are grown up they are keeping us." Poor?

ELSIE (Mitcham).—"I have written a book about my love affairs." Beginning with Chap. 1?

FED UP (Coventry).—"Can a man with a family call a car his own?" Well, he can, but it isn't.

P. H. (Groenford).—"Some M.P.s don't do anything except sit and think." And others simply sit.

J. B. C. (Hull).—"Can the telephone be taken under the sea?" Certainly, as far as we are concerned.

C. Y. (Tadworth).—"I have a beautiful Persian cat which will fetch twenty pounds." We should let it.

BERT (Halifax).—"I dashed upstairs three steps at a time, and where do you think the burglar was?" Downstairs.

S. B. (York).—"I am afraid this will be my last letter." We are afraid it won't be.

T. N. (Polesworth).—"I have invented a machine for shaking mats." A robot husband?

L. D. (Ruislip).—"A plaintiff said she had all her clothes torn off her back." So she wanted redress.

ELSIE (York).—"There is to be a brass band at my wedding." Most girls prefer a plain gold band.

SCIENTIST (Glasgow).—"Paper can be put to many good uses." Someone should tell those novelists.

A. P. (Camberwell).—"When I recovered consciousness I asked for water." You were evidently delirious.

P. R. (Dalston).—"Whitehall has an army of fifty plumbers." But official information still leaks out.

J. D. B. (Paisley).—"Can you guess what caused the topsy-turvy developments?" Yes; you weren't holding the camera straight.

POLITICIAN (Cardiff).—"I have made a list of the twenty most useless M.P.s." But surely there must be more than twenty of them?

R. J. (London, S.).—"The danger of infection from the use of the telephone is negligible." So is the risk of getting the right number.

H. S. (Cardiff).—"She is only a dancer, but receives the salary of a judge of the High Court." We wonder what the judge's wife has to say about it.

HAL D. (Liverpool).—"Bandits who raided a hotel recently robbed everybody but the waiters." There is evidently a fellow-feeling amongst bandits.

O. S. (Shrewsbury).—"There is a home for retired actors and actresses." And it looks as if something will soon have to be done for retired audiences.

*. . . Ask the boys!*

B. U. (Sheen).—"Don't you think that American slang is spoiling the English language?" You've said a mouthful.

H. K. (London, E.C.).—"I have an extraordinary office-boy." Doesn't he whistle theme songs from the talkies?

D. J. (Aberdeen).—"He claims that crime can be cured by medicine." For kleptomania, however, it is best to take nothing.

HISTORIAN (Amberley).—"Wat Tyler hit a tax collector on the head with an axe." Naturally, there were no revolvers in those days.

V. W. (Ware).—"I feel sure that I could sell anything." You'd have a job to sell stair-rods to somebody living in a bungalow.

ELSIE (Tong).—"I shall be so glad when pantomime opens." What are you grumbling about? Parliament is open most of the year.

P. Y. (Earlsfield).—"I watched a couple of chess-players for half an hour, and only two moves were made." And then you made the third.

S. F. (Selhurst).—"I wonder why he was annoyed when I asked him how he found the golf balls I sold him a week or two ago?" Very likely because he didn't.

L. M. (Yeovil).—"A parachute that folds up and can be carried in the pocket has been invented." Very useful for persistent insurance agents who call on people in top flats.

G. M. S. (York).—"A little thought at Christmas time is always appreciated." Yes, particularly by the *Bullets* judges. They may find your thought worth £500 or one of the 200 New Year Hampers on page 35.

R. M. (Bude).—"When I went away for Christmas I left lights burning in the house to mislead burglars." But how disheartening for the Christmas bands and carols.

G. D. (Canterbury).—"Do you remember Joseph Chamberlain saying, some forty years ago, that a good memory signified a high standard of intelligence?" We remember.

# The EDITOR Replies

THE Editor may be flippant on this page, but his humour is never malicious. He likes to end up the week's work on a bright note. Serious questions are dealt with by the expert staff of our Free Advice Service, who will deal with any matter causing anxiety to our readers. Simply send a stamped, addressed envelope with your query.

B. P. (Walton).—"I'm sure my son is a budding gangster." Then nip him before he shoots.

H. G. (Letchworth).—"Massage is good for irritable people." As long as they are not rubbed the wrong way.

ALF. (Redditch).—"I'm not going to drink at the New Year." When did your wife make that resolve?

B. M. (Chingford).—"Why not a school for bridegrooms?" Marriage schools them.

D. K. (Southall).—"My sight is bad for reading." But it can't be worse than your handwriting.

P. H. (Brixton).—"An actress is never too old to learn." Perhaps that's why some of them keep on putting it off.

G. D. (Trowbridge).—"Half the world doesn't know how the other half lives." But it does its best to tell it how to.

F. L. (Tonbridge).—"My brains don't work well in the morning." That's when you must have written to us

MISS D. (Perth).—"The hero of a novel I have been reading proposes to the heroine in the last chapter and is refused." One of those lived-happily-ever-after endings.

E. V. (Chiswick).—"In some of the big West End hotels the waiter decides how much whisky a guest has drunk by merely glancing at the bottle." An alternative method is to decide by glancing at the guest.

# SIDE-Slips

*Examples of genuine unconscious humour from the current Press are welcomed. Actual cuttings must be sent. 2/6 is paid to the sender of each item published. In the event of the same "Slip" being sent by more than one reader, the award is paid to sender of the first letter opened. Mark envelopes "Slips."*

MIDLAND DAILY TELEGRAPH:—"Mrs. —— also hit him on the head with SOMEONE hard."

WHITEHAVEN NEWS:—"Scripture readings by Messrs. Barbara Haslop and Amy Braithwaite. The chair was TRAINED by Mrs. ——."

GLOUCESTER CITIZEN:—"I shall adjourn this case for more INJURIES."

WEST SUSSEX GAZETTE:—"A well-known farmer appeared to answer a summons for NOT keeping a diseased cow in his possession."

YORKSHIRE GAZETTE:—"A thick fog developed and he was ABLE to see his way CLEARLY."

RED STAR WEEKLY:—"James ——'s gaze had never FELT her face."

DAILY EXPRESS (Manchester:)—"His wife found him DEAD in his greenhouse SUFFERING FROM carbolic-acid poisoning."

KINEMA COMIC:—"'Owch!' he spluttered, as the tears gushed into his EARS."

BURY TIMES:—"A powerful drama centred round the LOVELY life of a lighthouse keeper."

SUNDAY DESPATCH:—"The second half was full of FRILLS, and both sides were unlucky."

LEICESTER ADVERTISER:—"He had a seizure and died suddenly, but his DEATH had not been good for some time."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*"The Greatest of These—" Fund.*

# THE FUND'S FUTURE
## —That Personal Touch

OWING to the heavy demand on our space, subscriptions to "The Greatest of These—" Fund will after this issue be acknowledged by letter through the post.

We would ask our faithful subscribers who have hitherto sent their gifts anonymously, or have hidden their identity under a *nom de guerre*, when sending their future contributions, please to give their names and addresses, which will, of course, be treated in confidence and used for acknowledgment purposes only.

Probably our subscribers little guess with what affection and gratitude they are held by the fund's administrators—an affection which will tend to deepen and become more personal when the acknowledgments are made by letter.

Because the publication of acknowledgments in JOHN BULL must cease, we are confident from our knowledge of our readers that the subscriptions are not going to be allowed to suffer a drop.

In these times of widespread unemployment bringing so much hardship to countless families, we want to see an increase in our donations, which will mean more men, women and children receiving a helping hand.

Again, we would remind our readers that "The Greatest of These—" Fund is the only fund where not one penny of the money received is spent on administrative expenses, which JOHN BULL is proud to bear. All subscriptions, as hitherto, must be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, "The Greatest of These—" Fund, 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

We wish all our Subscribers a very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Fug, 5s.; Anon. (Sittingbourne), 6d.; Kathleen Baker (Ilkeston), 1s.; A Sailor (Bristol), 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Tyson (Scarborough), 10s.; Walton-on-Naze, 10s.; Meg, 10s.; Anon. (Bristol), 14s.; R. Salt, 2s. 6d.; B. A. Biner (Alresford), 2s. 6d.; Miss E. L. Jennings (Smethwick), 2s.; A. C. (Crouch End), 2s. 6d.; Ex-W.R.A.F., 6d.; A Lover of Children, 6d.; E. O., 7½d.; A. J. Pane (Harefield), 1s.; Anon. (Bursiem), 1s.; In Loving Memory of Little Alfy, 2s.; Duggie (Nethergaven), 2s. 6d.; O. K. (Bradford), 2s. 6d.; A Sympathiser, 2s. 6d.; A. B. C., 5s. 3d.; Miss E. Williams (Magor), £1; H. C. S., £2; A Sympathiser (Iron Bridge), 1s.; Anon. (Rawtenstall), 1s.; Mrs. McCrorie (Coventry), 1s.; Tote (Bollington), 1s.; "?," 1s. 2d.; A Labourer, 2s. 6d.; Working Woman (Wimborne), 3s.; M. L. (N. Lambeth), 5s.; Tithes, 6s.; Billie Boy, 10s.; Anon. (Larkhill Camp), 10s.; M. (Queen's Park), 10s.; Healey (Barry), 5s.; Billie, 4½d.; Bobby and Pincher (Chichester), 1s.; E. Davies (Tott), 1s.; R. T. (S.E.17), 1s.; Daddy of Three, 1s.; Mr. Willert (Stockport), 1s.; Joseph Almond (Prescot), 2s.; A Mother of Five Boys, 2s.; "Sat" (Islington), 2s. 6d.; Grateful Heart (Dundee), 3s.; Forest Sider (Epping), 4s.; Old Shellback, 5s.; Tommy (Dera Ismail Khan), 5s.; Taylor (Moldgreen), 9s.; Sympathy (Chester), 10s.; F. McCleery (Perth, Western Australia), £1; Aston Reader, 6d.; Miss W. Harper (Coventry), 6d.; Bristol Reader, 1s.; Dorothy (Blackpool), 1s. 6d.; A Sympathiser (Bayswater), 1s.; A Miner, 1s.; M. J. (Southampton), 1s. 6d.; Inasmuch (Rochdale), 2s.; E. and D. B., 2s.; One Who Knows Pain, 2s. 6d.; Constant Reader (Peckham), 2s. 6d.; Anon. (Highbury), 7s. 6d.; N. E. Brown (Loughborough), 2s. 6d.; J. D., 2s. 6d.; Jumping Joshua, 5s.; Well Wisher (Melton), 5s.; W. Neiser (Grangemouth), 10s.; E. B. B. (Cantab), 10s.; Old Soldier from Frindsbury, £1; Anon. (Birmingham), 6d.; Merton (Blackpool), 6d.; Only Targets (Earlsdon), 1s.; J. E. L. (Northwich), 1s.; Harry (St. Annes-on-Sea), 1s.; Lucky (Oswestry), 2s.; A Mother, 2s.; Anon. (Portsmouth), 2s.; Potteryite, 2s. 6d.; Anon. (Larkhill Camp), 2s. 6d.; Mrs. M. A. Thompson (Liverpool), 10s.; A. W. (Crayford), 10s.; H. W. R. (Camberne), 10s.; Every Little Helps (Buxton), £1; On the 9th, 3d.; A Ninth (Coventry), 9d.; Anon. (Oxford), 6d.; Duggie Never Owes, 1s.; H.H.m.m. (Longsight), 1s.; B. M. (Brighton), 1s.; Anon. (Highbury), 2s. 6d.; K. (Oxford), 2s. 6d.; Mrs. D. (Beckenham), 2s. 6d.; No. 5, 2s. 6d.; A. J., 2s.; Dorothy Orrell, 5s.; D. Lewis Jones (Ebbw Vale), 5s.; X. Y. Z. (Cardiff), £5; Evelyn (Pontypool), £1; G. T. Rogers, 10s.; E. O. Doody, 2s. 6d.; Jimmy, 1s.; C. H. Rust (Upper Slaughter), 6d.; R. J. W. (Spalding), 6d.; A Keen Bulleteer (Halifax), 2s.; Albert Parr (Nedminster), 6d.; H. Harding (Southampton), 6d.; Anon. (Leicester), 3s.; E. E. Neasey (Eltham), 2s. 6d.; H. M. Higgie (Tamworth), 1s.; Mrs. Nellie Semple (Hampstead), 1s.; Anon. (Upton Lovell), 2s.; James Alison (Dornoch), 2s.; A. B. (Navenby), 2s.; Mrs. Hawkes (Castletown), 2s. 6d.; L. P., 2s. 6d., Unlucky (Hounslow), 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Sampson (Frimley), 2s. 6d.; A. A. (Cardiff), 2s. 6d.; A Mother, 2s. 6d.; S. S. (Falmouth), 2s. 6d.; Nelly Moss (Bromborough), 2s. 6d.; From One Who Has Been Through The Mill, 4s.; Anon (Ramsey), 5s.; J. Lennon, 5s.; Mrs. W. Mills (Southwold), 5s.; Annie, Fred, Jack (Cheltenham), 10s.; M. A. Mexey (Cheltenham), £2; O. A. P. (Cheam), 2s. 6d.; Cobber, 2s. 6d.; M. J. T. (Ashford, Kent), 2s. 6d.; Anon. (West Bromwich), 2s. 6d.; Anon. (Knowle Park), 2s. 6d.; Poll-Well, 2s. 6d.; C. L. W., 2s. 9½d.; Grateful Heart (Dundee), 3s. 6d.; Mrs. N. Semple (Hampstead), 4s.; Mr. and Mrs. Kendell, 5s.; Anne Rendel, 5s.; Mrs. Jas. Davies (Bilston), 5s.; Bussie, 6s.; Mrs. A. Lee (Crewe), 10s.; A. C. (Altrincham), 10s.; Messrs. E. Rowley and Knighton (Leicester), 10s.; Mrs. Page (Hythe), 10s.; Mrs. A. A. Leach (Heywood), 10s.; Anon. (Larkhill Camp), 12s. 6d.; Micky (Portsmouth), 15s.; F. B. (Kensington), £1; Mrs. Alder (Hayes), £1; "?," 1s.; Roger, 6d.; Taylor (Moldgreen), 6d.; Smith, 1s.; Good Luck (Heaton Mersey), 1s. 6d.; Aberdonian, 1s.; Walgrove (Chesterfield), 1s.; Mary (In Memory of Daddy), 2s.; Mr. and Mrs. South (Beckenham), 2s.; C. H. P. (Calne), 2s. 6d.; G. M. (Runcorn), 2s. 6d.; S. S. Parsons, 2s. 6d.; Sat (Islington), 2s. 6d.; Carnlough, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. J. H. Hill (Chadwell Heath), 5s.; S. M., 5s.; R. Cripps (Plumstead), 7s. 6d.; A. C. (Doncaster), 10s.; Anon. (Ilkley), 10s.; Shanfani, 12s.; B. L. J. (Plumstead), £1; W. T. N. (Oxted), £1 10s.; Anon., 6d.; J. E. L. (Northwich), 1s.; Faith, 1s.; Modest (Glasgow), 1s.; E. J. C. (Newcastle-on-Tyne), 2s.; M. Romanovsky Murphy (Linford), 2s. 6d.; Plymouth, 2s. 6d.; Thankful for Work (Chelsea), 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Brocklehurst (Ardwick), 3s.; R. W. (Merthyr), 5s.; R. T. K. (Guernsey), 5s.; Orpington 5s.; Prayers Answered (Peacehaven), 5s.; Help Ye One Anotner, 10s.; Anon. (Chiswick), 10s.; H. C. (Liverpool), 10s.; A. D. (Ware), £2; Billie, 4½d.; E. J. Dyer (an old reader), 1s.; Mrs. Johnson (Dollar), 1s.; Suffer the Children, 1s.; Joan and Cyril (Plymouth), 1s.; Thankful, 2s.; Inasmuch (Rochdale), 2s.; A Girl's Class (Haggate S.S.), 2s. 6d.; L. Mc., 2s. 6d.; Potteryite, 2s. 6d.; Mary (Southport), 2s. 6d.; A. H. Fuller (Sevenoaks), 2s. 6d.; M. Hanna (Barton Spa), 3s.; R. G. (Southgate), 4s. 6d.; Daffy, 5s.; C. H., 5s.; Sammy (Swarcen), 5s.; L. S., 5s.; Sylvia (Retford), 6s.; Well Wisher from Cranleigh, 10s.; J. A. C. (South Lambeth), 10s.; W. O. Lovell (Banket, S. Rhodesia), £1; MacBullet (Glasgow), £2 2s.; F. G. Allen (Ottawa, Canada), 2s. 6d.; W. Harmston (Stamford), 1s.; Unsuccessful Jason (Sheen), £1; Mrs. Farrall (Leeds), £1; G. Johnson (Ferry Hill), 1s. 6d.; R. Edwards (Griffithstown), 1s.; Anon. (Wrexham), 1s.; S. Silvester (Worcester Park), 5s.; J. A. Ward (Newark), 2s. 6d.; D. M. L. (Highgate), 4s. 2d.; Mrs. J. Crowhurst (Lewisham), 1s.; In Memory of Jimmy Boy, 2s.; M. C. (E.10), 2s. 6d.; C. E. J. (Golders Green), 2s. 6d.; Hyst (Dewsbury), 2s. 6d.; Inasmuch, 2s. 6d.; F. L. (Lincoln), 2s. 6d.; W. (Weston-super-Mare), 3s.; Leamington, 3s.; Shop Assistant's Farthings (Brighton), 4s.; E. Clark, 5s.; M. H., Thankoffering (Bristol), 5s.; Anon. (Market Drayton), 5s.; L. Staines (Oldham), 5s.; Thankful Grimy, 5s.; L. S. Bulwell, 5s.; Mac (Harrow), 5s.; K. T. (Harboro'), 8s.; C. Crook (Swansea), 10s.; L. P. (Wolverhampton), 10s.; B. R. (Ilfracombe), 10s.; Mountain Lass, 10s.; Cymro (Sale of gold bracelet, etc.), £1 12s.; Anon. (Ealing), £5; Walshaw, 1s.; S. J. P. (Murton), 1s.; Lonely Widow (Saltley), 1s.; Thank God, 2s. 3d.; In Loving Memory of Sidie (Swindon), 2s.; P. B. Ottewell (Wisbech), 2s. 6d.; Bulleteer (N.19), 2s. 6d.; C. P. (Ipswich), 2s. 6d.; L. E. E. C., 5s.; "?," 5s.; Pimple, 5s.; A. W. K. Brumwell (North Shields), 5s.; E. C., Poor Woman, 5s.; Mrs. Walters (Cumnor Hill), 5s.; K. (Oxford), 5s.; M. W. (Saffron Walden), 5s.; James Roberts (Tooting), 6d.; A. Milner (near Woodbridge), 6d.; John Bevan (Swansea), 6d.; Mrs. H. Gill (Nottingham), 1s.; 17265, 1s.; Mrs. H. Tisley (Acton), 1s.; Anon. (London), 1s.; E. Winsbrough, 1s.; N. C. W. Edge, 1s.; Mrs. E. A. Robson (Pembroke Dock), 2s.; T. L. Allen (West Bridgford), 2s.; Edith Murphy (Coventry), 2s.; A. M. Everett (Ashford, Kent), 2s.; E. L. Ward (Woodbridge), 2s.; R. Stafford (Coventry), 2s.; Mrs. D. R. Pickering, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. E. Ream (Hornsea, Yorks), 2s. 6d.; R. H. Perfitt (Worcester), 2s. 6d.; Mrs. A. Mottram (Eccles), 2s. 6d.; Miss D. Whittingham (Westcliff), 10s.; Mrs. Mead, 5s. 6d.; B. A. E. (Nantwich), 10s.; Esther, £1; Little Lorna, Ruth and Maureen, £1; Mrs. F. S. Bowyer (Dulwich Village), £1; Park Hill, 2s. 6d.; E. J. Reed (Bristol), 4s.; A. Crinnie (Botcherby), 6d.; A. K. (Ashton-under-Lyne), 10s.; Mrs. G. Harris (Somerset), 3s.; Mr. T. Towers (Darlington), 6d.

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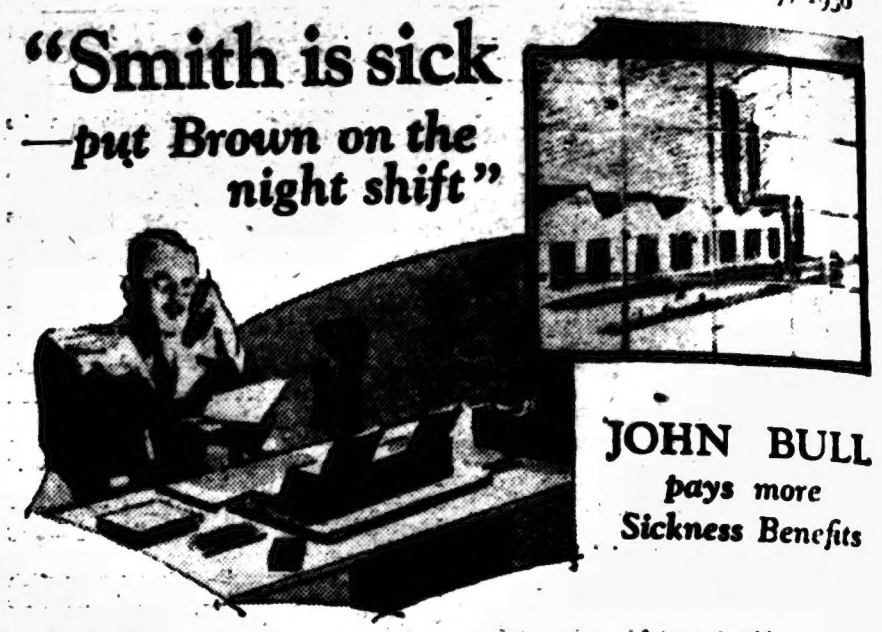
# "Smith is sick —put Brown on the night shift"



JOHN BULL *pays more Sickness Benefits*

WHEN Smith's wife sends word to the factory that her husband is ill, there is a little sinking of the heart as she remembers the pay envelope which must now temporarily be stopped. But, should she or her husband be registered under "John Bull's" Great Free Insurance, she can call on "John Bull" for a cheque to tide her over a very trying and expensive period.

How do you and YOUR husband stand in the matter? If you were taken sick could you call on "John Bull" for a cheque to pay the doctor? Are YOU registered?

## SICKNESS BENEFITS—£5 5s. each.

*We give below the names of a few of those who have received cheques on account of measles, diphtheria, typhus fever, smallpox, etc.*

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BLETCHINGTON, OXON.—Mrs. M. Tomlins, The Causeway.
BOLTON LE SANDS.—Mr. J. Whinnerah, Whin Grove.
BURNHAM MARKET, NORFOLK.—Miss M. Claxton, Station Rd.
CARDIFF.—Mrs. M. J. Hopkins, 11, Station Rd., Llandaff, N.
CARDIFF.—Miss Doreen Ollis, 2, Clive Rd., Canton.
CARNFORTH, LANCS.—Mrs. M. A. Towers, 15, Preston St.
CHELMSFORD.—Mrs. C. Baker, 20, Springfield Park Lane.
CHISLEHURST, KENT.—Mrs. S. Spicer, 29, Barham Rd.
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DERBY.—Mr. J. Duffield, 167, Kedleston Rd.
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EDINBURGH.—Mr. J. McMillan, 4, Daisy Terrace.
ERITH, KENT.—Mrs. F. Temple, 4, Colyers Close, Heath.
FEATHERSTONE, YORKS.—Mr. F. H. Gripton, 50, Pretoria St.
GUERNSEY.—Mr. D. J. Pillet, 2, Orange Ville, Bouet, St. Peter Port.
HARROGATE.—Mr. R. S. Kellett, Gilmoor Farm, Shaw Mills.
HUTTON RUDBY, YORKS.—Mrs. A. Gerbutt.
ILKELEY, SURREY. — Mrs. F. Baker, 3, Roke Lodge Rd.
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**Against Fire, Storm, Flood, Sickness, Accident "John Bull" covers you free**

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I have sent an Order Form to my Newsagent for the regular weekly delivery of JOHN BULL. Please register me as a regular reader.

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Reader's Signature.

Age .....

Address .....

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Name and address of Newsagent.

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..... Date .....

Use ½d. stamp. Don't seal envelope. A certificate setting out the full benefits and conditions and certifying registration will be sent if ½d. stamped addressed envelope is enclosed for return. PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY. [J.B., 27/12/30

Christmas 1930
'John Bull' wishes you a Merry Christmas—and invites you to start the New Year with a £500 Cheque or a Gold-Lined Hamper!
A Record Again!
200
GOLD-LINED NEW YEAR HAMPERS
EACH HAMPER WINNER GETS:
PLUMP FOWL 1 lb CHOCOLATES
PORK SAUSAGES TIN OF BISCUITS
PLUM PUDDING 50 CIGARETTES
DUNDEE CAKE BOX OF CRACKERS
MUSCATELS & ALMONDS BOTTLE OF PORT
AND CHEQUE FOR £1
and
Big 'Bullets' First
£500
2ND PRIZE £50
3RD PRIZE £25
10 of £5 10 of £3
300 PRIZES of 2/6
8,000 'TARGET' PRIZES

## £500 AND FINAL HAMPERS—BE QUICK!

WE shall soon be despatching the season's final batch of 200 bumper New Year Hampers—and a fine cheque for £500 as well. All these splendid prizes must be won in the current contest, and if you spend some of your Christmas on making *Bullets* you may well be amongst the winners.

How acceptable a substantial New Year cheque would be! What a welcome you and your family would have for a big New Year Hamper of seasonable delicacies, topped with a cheque for £1! Decide the destination of one of these must-be-won prizes by entering a good *Bullet* whilst there is still time.

To make a *Bullet*, you have only to add any TWO, THREE or FOUR WORDS of apt and original comment to any of the *Examples* given on this page.

Here is a specimen to help you: suppose you choose the *Example* CHAPTER 1931, the added words ANOTHER "INSTALMENT"—ANY "EASIER"? would complete a typical *Bullet*. Each of the successful *Bullets* below is a further hint for would-be winners.

Remember—only a few days remain to use one of the coupons on this page and earn a place in our New Year Honours List. Your entry must reach us by Saturday, January 3, or you will be too late.

## £987 10s. CASH AWARDED THIS WEEK

**FIRST PRIZE OF £300, COMPETITION No 784**

**Mr. T. R. Gordon, 39, King Street, Newmilns, Ayrshire.**
Example:—IF YOUTH BUT KNEW
Bullet:—*Feeling* "FAMOUS" BEATS *Being*.

### SECOND PRIZE OF £50:

Mr. E. Jobling, 4, Byron Street, Shieldfield, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Example:—Highly Significant
Bullet:—Father Can't Say "Significant."

### THIRD PRIZE OF £25:

Mr. E. J. Wilson, 2, Wood Street, Thornley, Co. Durham.
Example:—What She's Thinking About
Bullet:—For "Key," See "Ring."

### 10 PRIZES OF £10 EACH:

G. DOWNING, 377, Third Avenue, Manchester.
Her Weakness—Managing—His, "Managing One."

R. G. EVANS, 38, Priory Close, Sudbury, Wembley.
Biting The Dust—Mars—Or "Swallowing Earth."
(Entered on "Target" Prize coupon.)

Mrs. J. FIELDEN, West View, Mellor, Nr. Blackburn.
For The Rest Of His Life—Wife's "Star"—Wise Man!

J. R. FORSTER, 2, Chertsey Mount, Carlisle.
A Grim Struggle—Some Having, Saving Home.

D. B. FOUNTAIN, 42, Griffith Street, Rushden, Northants.
Dog In The Manger — Age Occupying Youth's "Crib."

A. S. R. LEWIN, 10, Dulverton Road, Bristol.
On Christmas Day—"Little Child" Still "King."

W. MORTON, "Strathyre," Stepps, Glasgow.
If I Ran The B.C.C.—Present "Features" Soon Altered.

F. E. SCHOFIELD, Eastville, Boston, Lincs.
Her Weakness—Too Apt To "Tap."

J. W. SIMPSON, 77, Cheeryble Street, Manchester.
A Grim Struggle — Wintering, Awaiting Industries' "Spring."

Mrs. L. TRAFF, 69, Manor Square, Chadwell Heath, Essex.
On Christmas Day—"Paper Chains" Round Empire.
(Entered on "Target" Prize coupon.)

### 10 PRIZES OF £9 EACH:

S. F. AYRES, 12, London Place, Oxford.
What She's Thinking About—Removing—Home's So Complete!

A. HANCOCK, 14, Northcote Street, Northampton.
When Party's Finished—Only Prosperity's "Skeleton" Left.

G. HOPKINS, The Square, Pemberton, Nr. Llanelly, Carms.
Danger In The Air—From Microbe—And Microphone.

Mrs. HOTCHKIN, 15, Woodsley Avenue, Cleethorpes.
If I Ran The B.B.C.—"Each Number—" a Back Number.

E. H. LANGRIDGE, 10, Victoria Road, Eastbourne.
What She's Thinking About—Her Looks—His Outlook.
(Entered on "Target" Prize coupon.)

H. LIGHTBODY, 62, Britannic Street, Belfast.
When Party's Finished—Suddenly Remembers She's Slimming.

J. MOORE, 43, Leamington Road, Blackburn, Lancs.
On Christmas Day—Are We *Warm*-hearted? Yes!

P. MANTON-OVEREND, 62, Junction Road, Gillingham, Kent.
On Christmas Day—Forget "Words"—Remember "Message."

S. S. PARFITT, 49, Allen Street, Mountain Ash, Glam.
Stony Silence—"Fell," And "Crushed" Intruder.

Miss A. E. POWELL, 12, Sir Isaac's Walk, Chichester.
On Christmas Day — Doctor's Children Muffle Telephone.
(Entered on "Target" Prize coupon.)

A complete list of all cash prize-winners can be seen at these offices.

ALL PRIZES HAVE BEEN POSTED.

### "BULLETS" RULES.

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what in the opinion of the judges in consultation with the Editor is the best Bullet received and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness and originality. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.

2. Only two attempts may be written on each coupon, and a postal order must be enclosed at the rate of 6d. for each coupon made use of. This must be made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed & Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Coupons must not be mutilated.

3. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

Employees of Odhams Press and their families are not eligible to compete.

## Examples for "Bullets" Competition No. 786

CHAPTER 1931
POLITICAL PANTOMIME
LET'S PULL TOGETHER AND
BRITAIN'S CHOICE
VALUE FOR MONEY
AIR OF FESTIVITY
SNOWDEN v. TAXPAYER
OFFICE CAT
TOO GOOD TO MISS
GENUINE ANTIQUE
MAN IN THE SHOP

TEMPORARILY
GOING WITH A SWING
MODERN IMPROVEMENT
WAGES
A FRAUD
DOWN—DOWN—DOWN
COMING TO BLOWS
FREAK OF FORTUNE
CONCLUDED
DISTINGUISHING HIMSELF
FOOTSORE AND WEARY

DOESN'T LAST LONG
CHEATING
ONE IN THE EYE
RECORDING ANGEL
PARTLY
RED IN THE FACE
WISER NOW
BEGINS AT HOME
THE VICTIMS
LIFE WOULD BE DULL IF

Example _____ Closing SAT. Jan. 3
Bullet
Example _____
Bullet
(786) P.O. No. _____ Signed _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page. With 1 Coupon, send P.O. for 6d. Address _____

Example _____ Closing SAT. Jan. 3
Bullet
Example _____
Bullet
(786) P.O. No. _____ Signed _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page. With 2 Coupons, send P.O. for 1s. Address _____

Enter your full name and address on each coupon

Example _____ Closing SAT. Jan. 3
Bullet
Example _____
Bullet
(786) P.O. No. _____ Signed _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page. With 3 Coupons, send P.O. for 1s. 6d. Address _____

"Bullets" must consist of Two, Three or Four Words.

Example _____ Closing SAT. Jan. 3
Bullet
Example _____
Bullet
(786) P.O. No. _____ Signed _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page. With 4 Coupons, send P.O. for 2s. Address _____

If you wish to send in further "Bullets" you can write them on plain paper.

**Address Coupons: "Bullets" No. 786, "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2 (Comp.)**

Every week regular readers of *Bullets Bulletin* are stepping up into the prize-list—you also will find its free weekly help invaluable. Apply for a free specimen copy, sending your name and address on a penny postcard. Or, better still, make sure of the next 13 issues by sending crossed P.O. 6d. (to cover postage) made payable to JOHN BULL. Address:—"Bulletin" Department, Odhams Press Ltd., 19, Short's Gardens, London, W.C.2.

The original cheque for £300 awarded to the First Prize-winner in Competition No. 783 will be displayed in the window of Mr. Jewell, 5, Bellenden Road, Peckham, S.E.

NEXT WEEK ONLY! £400 AND 50 BIG NEW YEAR CHEQUES!

# TAKE BOVRIL

-AND DEVELOP STRENGTH